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HONGKONG & KOWLOON

COMMENT OF THE DAY

Govt Replies

GOVERNMENT'S replies to several points of criticism and suggestions advanced by the Unofficials in the Budget debate, while placatory in tone, cannot be considered altogether satisfactory. Recognisable is the traditional line of least resistance attitude; excuses for leaving things as they are, rather than solid reasoning against proposed alterations.

One notable illustration of this given yesterday was Government's reply to the proposal that expatriate officers' furlough should be shortened. The principal official argument is that Hongkong's conditions of leave must keep in line with other colonies or recruitment of expatriate officers would be jeopardised. One would have hoped that Government at least would have agreed in principle with the Unofficials' suggestion, and from that point indicated a willingness to obtain through the Colonial Office a standardised system of leave-time for expatriates applicable to colonies where conditions of service are otherwise similar. Such an arrangement would leave Hongkong on equal terms with other colonies so far as recruitment of expatriates is concerned.

ODDLY too, Government considers the problem of baggage as being of paramount importance when it comes to sending civil servants Home on leave by air. In fact, as many others who have used air travel for Home furlough can testify, this presents no real problem at all, and cannot be advanced as an acceptable reason for rejecting the air travel system for long leave.

Another rather curious answer was given to the question of developing Shatin. Apparently any action finally depends on a decision whether or not control of land matters should be brought under the Crown Lands branch of the PWD. And then, ominously it is emphasised, if it is decided that this should be done, it would require a considerable increase in professional and technical staff, and "the recruitment of the required staff must be a slow process." Does this mean that if the control of land matters is not invested in the PWD, the Shatin development could be speedy? If so, and if the alternative offers a practical and effective method of administration, then surely it would be a good idea to adopt it.

KOWLOON residents will find no solace in Government's reply to the proposal that priority be given to the building of a new post office in Tsimshatsui. There is official agreement that present facilities are inadequate, but the building of a new post office, having been placed in the category of new works which are considered desirable, but for which no immediate action can be contemplated, there is, seemingly, nothing more to be said about it. That can scarcely be described as a flexible system.

To the people of Kowloon an adequate post office is of far greater importance than the immediate construction of buildings which offer no public service. Moreover, our post offices raise substantial revenue for the exchequer, and if they lack facilities for the general public, this will in some measure be reflected in the revenue accruing from postal services.

There is ample reason, we suggest, for the appropriate sub-committee of the Finance Committee to reconsider the priority given to the building of a new post office in Tsimshatsui.

Plan To Flood London With Communist Newspaper Fails

DAILY WORKER TRIES TO BREAK STRIKE

Secret 'Deal' Foiled

From LES ARMOUR

LONDON, MAR. 31.

A PLAN TO FLOOD LONDON WITH COPIES OF THE COMMUNIST DAILY WORKER WAS FOILED TODAY BY THE LONDON SOCIETY OF COMPOSITORS.

The Worker had negotiated a "deal" with the Communist-led Electrical Trades Union and the Amalgamated Engineering Union, whose unofficial strike over wages has left London without newspapers, and reportedly planned to print one million copies daily during the duration of the strike.

At the last moment, Robert Willis, Secretary of the compositors' union, pulled his men out. Yesterday afternoon the union's Daily Worker chapel voted unanimously at a secret meeting to endorse the action.

Mr Willis in an exclusive interview last night said: "The Worker was apparently prepared to accept the wage demands of the two unions involved in the unofficial strike, but they have five of my men under notice on grounds of poverty. Besides, if I hadn't acted they would have scooped London."

Obviously angry, Willis declined to say whether or not he would pursue the issue of poverty sackings after the present unofficial strike has been settled. "I'll deal with that when the time comes. But my boys will go back when I tell them to, and not before."

Willis said: "I don't know what arrangement they came to with two triking unions, but I have a suspicion it wouldn't have cost them a penny for the simple reason that if the men are good party members they'd have kicked it all back anyway. Of course, I don't know they are all party members."

The two unions announced on Sunday they were prepared to negotiate with any management willing to come to a unilateral agreement outside the Newspaper Proprietors Association agreement. It was reported the unions had agreed to go back to work prior to the outcome of the negotiations, but there was no official confirmation of this last night from either of the unions.

The ordinary circulation of the Daily Worker is just over 90,000, but the paper's almost new printing plant could easily handle many times that number.

"BLACK MARKET"

With the general public willing to pay as much as eight times the normal selling price for "black market" copies of the few provincial papers being circulated in London, the Worker could probably have sold as many copies as it could print.

The provincial newspapers have an agreement with the national newspaper proprietors not to circulate any more than their usual number of copies.

The two striking unions, both of which were offered the same wage increase as the printing unions who settled contracts recently, are demanding an increase of 58 shillings a week.

Both sides were last night still deadlocked as the unions refused to refer the matter to arbitration. The newspaper proprietors have already agreed to accept the findings of such a tribunal. —London Express Service.

FINANCIAL LOSSES

London, Mar. 30.

The financial losses suffered by Britain's national newspapers in the six-day-old newspaper strike passed the £500,000 mark today with no settlement of the dispute in view.

This figure was estimated by reliable sources after a day in which representatives of the 24 newspapers and the two unions involved held separate meetings to discuss the stoppage.

Sir Winston Churchill's Cabinet also reviewed the latest development in the strike launched by 600 electricians and technicians in support of a pay claim.

There was no sign of any government move to intervene although a Conservative Member of Parliament, Captain H. B. Kerby, served notice that he will ask the Prime Minister in the House of Commons next week to produce an official government newspaper, during the strike.

DEPUTATION

Late today the Ministry of Labour received a deputation of five members of the Printing and Kindred Trades Federation (PKTF) many of whose members are being given a fortnight's notice by newspapers although they are outside the strike.

The PKTF leaders discussed with Mr Thomas Clark, the Ministry's chief industrial relations officer, the position of these workers whose number is not yet known but will run into "many thousands."

The notices to these newspaper workers will date from Friday and take effect on April 15.

They cover compositors, printers, packers, machine room men, drivers, readers and other press workers.

Tonight it was learned that the first dismissal notices affecting journalists have been served on certain employees of Reynolds News, a Sunday newspaper owned by the Co-operative movement with a circulation of 600,000.

The journalists involved are part-time employees who work on Saturdays. They have been given a month's notice.

Other editorial staffs are not yet affected.

STRIKE BACKGROUND

The strike began last Friday morning when the 600 technicians stopped work on protest against an offer by the Newspaper Proprietors Association of an extra 14 shillings sterling a week.

The men had sought an extra 58½ shillings a week but the NPA said the offer was in line with that accepted by majority of other printing trade unions.

Since then the members of the NPA have printed no newspapers and there has been a complete deadlock between the two parties.

The NPA is willing to submit the dispute to arbitration but the unions—the Amalgamated Engineering Union and the Electrical Trades Union—have so far rejected this course while offering to negotiate direct with any employer making a separate offer.

Today both the Council of the NPA and the 16-man strike committee of the two unions discussed the deadlock separately.

Mr Jack Reid, one of the strike leaders, said: "We have had no approach from the employers or the Ministry today. We are still determined that the first approach must come from the other side."

QUEUES FOR PAPERS

Londoners queued today for provincial papers and magazines and listened to the BBC extended news bulletins.

Many overseas visitors here were able to read London and world news in airmail copies of Commonwealth and foreign newspapers arriving a few days later.

The strike has brought business in the London Stock Exchange to its lowest ebb this year. The absence of newspaper stock market news has caused a fall in average daily transactions from 11,000 to about 7,500.

The 24 members of the NPA affected—12 daily newspapers, three London evenings and nine Sunday papers—have a combined circulation of more than 47 million.

According to reliable estimates today the net loss being suffered by the national dailies and the London evening papers is at least £80,000 a day.

The net loss of the nine Sunday papers is said to be around the £106,000 mark for each publication day missed.

The six days of the strike have therefore meant a loss of more than £500,000 for the newspapers concerned.—Reuter.

DOCKS STRIKE ENDS

Liverpool, Mar. 30.

The strike which has for three days crippled the Merseyside network of docks and spread inland to canal dockers at Manchester ended tonight.

Meetings of strikers at Liverpool and Manchester agreed to resume work tomorrow. At some docks an immediate return to man the night shift was awaited.

The Dock Labour Board decided yesterday not to discriminate between the two unions in engaging dock workers and the executive of the Stevedores Union then asked its men to return to work.—Reuter.

NATIONALIST PLANES ATTACK RED SHIPS

Taipei, Mar. 30.

Chinese Nationalist fighter bombers today attacked Communist warships and junks near the Min River estuary in the Foochow area.

An Air Force communique said that the first wave of fighter bombers took off for an early morning attack on "enemy gunboats and a fleet of two-masted junks at Kwantou."

The communique claimed that three 150-ton gunboats of a fleet of nine similar vessels were sunk.

A few hours later more waves of fighter bombers attacked junk concentrations in the Min River estuary area and sank a two-masted junk, the communique claimed.

The raiding planes encountered heavy anti-aircraft fire but all returned safely, the Nationalists said.

A National Defence Ministry communique tonight announced that Chinese Communist artillery in Amoy today fired 14 rounds at Nationalist-held Tatan island in the Quemoy group.

The communique said there were no casualties.—Reuter.

The Teachers Retaliate

Singapore, Mar. 30.

Last week, 1,300 students of the Chung Hwa Middle School here went on strike for a day because they were dissatisfied with one of the instructor's teaching methods.

When they arrived the next day, they were told, "No school today. The teachers are on strike — against you."

Teachers here had held a meeting to discuss the situation. They said they were tired of the wave of strikes in the schools and being "bullied" by their students.

They decided to cease teaching until the matter was settled. — France-Presse.

Soviet-Japan Peace Talks Latest

New York, Mar. 30.

The Japanese Ambassador, Mr Renzo Sawada, called on the Soviet Ambassador, Mr Arkady A Sobolev, to make arrangements for peace talks in New York.

Mr Sawada, at a Press conference, said that he met with Mr Sobolev at the Soviet United Nations mission this morning. He added that Russia's chief United Nations delegate told him there had been no word from Moscow about arrangements for the bilateral negotiations.

Mr Sawada is Japan's United Nations observer.

SUITABLE SITE

The Japanese Ambassador confirmed that at his last meeting with Mr Sobolev on February 23 the Russian official had informed him that New York city was a suitable site for the negotiations.

"We talked for about 10 minutes formally this morning," Mr Sawada said. "Then we had a very friendly social conversation."

Mr Sawada said that he had asked Mr Sobolev point-blank for an answer to his earlier questions about exactly when and where the talks could begin.

He said that when Mr Sobolev receives a reply from the Kremlin, the preliminary arrangements for the conference will be made in the offices of the Japanese United Nations mission.—United Press.

Hanoi, Mar. 30.

President Ho Chi-minh will not head the North Vietnam delegation to the Asian-Afro Conference which is to be held in Indonesia next April 18, informed sources said here today.

These officials said the North Vietnam delegation will probably be headed by Vice-Premier Phan Van Dong, although no official statement has been made on the matter.—France-Presse.

Faure On Formosa Problem

Duty To Prevent Conflagration

Paris, Mar. 30.

French Premier M. Edgar Faure stated here today that it is the absolute duty of the world's great powers to do everything in their power to prevent either a local or a world conflagration over Formosa.

He added that "I think that throughout the world, there must be a general agreement not to start a war over one or the other islands off the coast of China, no matter what its importance."

Speaking at a press conference, M. Faure said, however, that the solutions to these problems "are clearly not in the direct or personal domain of France."

He denied press reports that he had broken with the policy of former Premier Pierre Mendes-France in the matter of seeking a Big-Four Conference in the month of May.

MATERIAL DIFFERENCE

M. Faure pointed out that M. Mendes-France had expected the ratification of the Paris agreements by France during the first part of February. In reality, the ratification was achieved only toward the end of March. This difference of a month and a half "cannot be materially ignored," he stated.

The desire of France, said M. Faure, is to have an East-West conference as soon as possible, but without any excess of speed which might compromise the usefulness of such a meeting.

Questioned about the possible presence of West Germany at a Big Four Conference M. Faure said that while Germany would be consulted, "any possible Four Power Conference, also should not, in our opinion, be a five-power conference."—France-Presse.

Soviet Officer Seeks Asylum

Berlin, Mar. 30.

A Russian officer and his family fled to West Berlin today and asked the British authorities for asylum, it was reported.

Informed sources said the officer, in uniform and accompanied by his wife and child, entered a British Army store here and gave himself up. He was reported to have placed his revolver on a counter in the Navy, Army and Air Force Institute store and said: "I surrender."

No other details were available.—United Press.

Submarine's Astonishing Performance

New York, Mar. 30.

The US atomic-powered submarine Nautilus has already covered 3,000 miles in an "astonishing and revolutionary" performance, declared its skipper, Commander Eugene Wilkinson, at a press conference today.

He said that during the trials, the submarine has been tested on nine different occasions for a total time of 319 hours. It has dived 69 times and remained under water for more than 90 hours, he said.

Two small fires broke out in the electrical equipment but were quickly brought under control, he stated.—France-Presse.

4 DIE IN STADIUM STAMPEDE

Santiago, Mar. 30.

Four persons were killed and over 200 injured tonight as thousands of soccer fans stampeded in an attempt to force their way into the National Stadium to attend a football game.

The crowd had gathered to attend the final matches of the 18th South American soccer tournament. Uruguay and Peru were to compete for third place, followed by a match between Chile and Argentina for first place.

The impatient mob stormed the gates, fighting each other in an attempt to get in. Four persons were trampled to death under the feet of the crowd, their clothes ripped from their bodies by the surging crowd. Many fans were stabbed with knives.

The streets around the stadium were littered with shoes, coats and hats.

Hundreds of policemen on duty were unable to hold back the mob, which destroyed the gates and even broke down the walls of the stadium. Firemen came to assist the police.

Dozens of cars were called into service to carry the wounded to hospital.

The game between Uruguay and Peru started on time.—United Press.

TIGHTENING UP INFORMATION

Washington, Mar. 30.

The Army, Navy and Air Force departments were ordered today to replace their uniformed information directors with civilians.

The order came from the Secretary for Defence, Mr Charles Wilson, who earlier this morning tightened control over information made public by military men.—Reuter.

Pathans Riot In Kabul

Pakistan Embassy Attacked

Karachi, Mar. 30.

Twelve Afghan policemen and 35 demonstrators were injured today during an anti-Pakistan demonstration in Kabul, capital of Afghanistan, Kabul radio reported.

The demonstrators, Pathan tribesmen, tried to pull down the flag from the Pakistan Embassy in protest against Pakistan's decision to merge Pathan tribal areas on the northwest frontier into West Pakistan.

Afghanistan has always supported the claims of Pathans in that area that they should be formed into an independent state called Pakhtoonistan.

The radio said that 20 of the demonstrators, including students and the "elite of the city," have been arrested.

A heavy guard has been placed in the Pakistan Embassy and the Afghan Government had banned any further demonstrations and instructed the police to shoot at sight to maintain order.

PROTEST LODGED

Pakistan's Prime Minister, Mohammed Ali, tonight called on the Afghan Charge d'Affaires, Sardar Mohammed Atiq Kham Rafiqn and lodged a strong protest against today's attack.

A Pakistan Government spokesman said that an orderly at the Pakistani Embassy was seriously injured.

He said that according to advices from Kabul, the demonstrators wrecked the Embassy's office equipment and damaged transport.

The spokesman said the mob also entered and wrecked the Ambassador's residence.

Some of the demonstrators were "uniformed students and evidently had been officially organised," he added.—Reuter.

Aid For Cotton Industry?

London, Mar. 30.

The Cabinet today discussed proposals for helping the British cotton industry out of its present difficulties.

Sir Winston Churchill, who last week met a delegation of leaders of the industry, presided over today's meeting.

Yesterday he told the House of Commons the government would announce its policy before Parliament adjourns for Easter.

Cotton towns in the North of England are preparing for widespread unemployment as factories close or cut down staffs because of a fall in export demand and an increase in foreign imports.—Reuter.

More Shooting On The Israel-Jordan Border

Gaza, Mar. 30.

One Egyptian soldier was reported to have been wounded in a 90-minute exchange of fire with Israeli troops near the tense truce line today.

Egyptian Army sources said an Israeli patrol penetrated 200 metres inside the Egyptian zone and opened fire on a passing Egyptian patrol. Two Israeli posts across the border allegedly joined in the exchange, shelling the Egyptian post with mortars and automatic fire.

The Egyptian post returned the fire whereupon Israeli reinforcements arrived in three cars and joined in the firing, the Egyptian sources said.

The Israelis then withdrew, the sources said. It was unknown whether there were any Israeli casualties.

Egypt complained to the Mixed Armistice Commission and truce observers were investigating the affair.—United Press.

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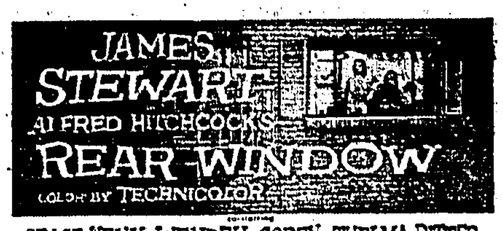

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Saar Policy Approved By France

NO ADVANTAGE IN ASKING FOR NEW GUARANTEES

Paris, Mar. 30.

The National Assembly today approved the French Government's policy on the Saar by a vote of 323 to 284.

The vote came after the Foreign Minister, M. Antoine Pinay, defended the Government's action in the face of criticism by some deputies.

He implied that France consider that the Anglo-American guarantees on the Saar still hold good despite a recent claim to the contrary by the West German Chancellor, Dr Konrad Adenauer.

NO ADVANTAGE

"The French Government considers that there would be no advantage in asking a public renewal of the guarantees," he said.

M. Pinay said the Government was sticking by the spirit and the letter of the agreement on the Saar reached last October 23. There had been no interpretative agreement between the two countries since then.

He assured the Assembly that any future discussions on the Saar would not be interpretative but might deal with such subjects as practical measures for carrying out the referendum by which the Saar population will approve or reject the statute.

"The Government does not believe that it would be in the interests of France to reopen negotiations on the Saar agreement," he added.

He said that if the Saar treaty were broken the Western European organisation would have to settle it.

M. Pinay also said that France wants to "eliminate" the Roschling family from the Saar's big Voelklingen steel works either by friendly agreement or unilateral action.

SHORT DEBATE

M. Pinay was speaking during a short debate which had been intended to set a date for a full-dress parliamentary discussion on the Saar.

The Assembly approved by 323 to 284 a motion putting off indefinitely a Saar debate. This constituted an approval of the way the Government is handling the subject.—Reuter.

Italian Aid For Motorists

The Automobile Club of Italy are installing telephone kiosks at all the principal sites in Rome for the benefit of their members. The members of the club can use these telephones by inserting a special type coin, which can be obtained from the car-park attendant on production of a membership card, or any number can be bought from the club and kept in your car. Picture shows: the first car park phone being used in the Piazza Colonna, Rome.—Express Photo.

Jelke Prosecution Witnesses Hotly Criticised

New York, Mar. 30.

A defence attorney, Mr George W. Herz, told a blue ribbon Jury today that the prostitute and ex-convict witnesses who testified against oleo heir Minot (Mickey) F. Jelke did not have "the moral fibre to respect the integrity of an oath."

Summing up at Jelke's second trial on two counts of compulsory prostitution, Mr Herz said that the State had let off other persons involved in the investigation of cafe society vice and had centred its fire on Jelke because he was wealthy.

"They've let the lion free to roam the streets while they take out after Jelke, a small poodle, because he is wealthy," Mr Herz stormed.

SUMMING UP

Jelke was convicted at his first trial two years ago but won a second trial because Judge Francis L. Valente barred the Press and public during presentation of the State's case. He listened attentively as Mr Herz began his scheduled three-hour summing-up. The case is expected to go to the Jury tomorrow.

The defence attorney referred to an ex-convict, Richard Short, 41, as "a no good thief, a man whose testimony I wouldn't believe on 10 Bibles."

When the Assistant District Attorney, Mr Anthony J. Liebler objected, Mr Herz condescendingly said, "Mr Liebler is right. I am carried away by my enthusiasm."

Then he castigated Short, one of the State's chief witnesses against Jelke, as a man who committed his first crime when Jelke was a "babe in his mother's cradle," as a man who was married four times, twice to prostitutes, and as a "pool-room shark."

"When I mention the name Short my blood literally boils over," Mr Herz said.

During the trial, which began on March 7, Short testified that he and Jelke had talked to a former hat check girl, Marquerite Cordova, 26, about engaging in a life of prostitution. Short, at the time, was married to Pat Thompson, a prostitute who provided him with $300 a week "pocket money."

The two charges against Jelke involved Miss Cordova and Pat Ward, 21, with whom the oleo heir shared an apartment from November, 1951, to February, 1952.

The defence attorney also questioned the integrity of the State's other witnesses, including Miss Ward, Miss Cordova, Miss Thompson, and three other call girls who testified for the State.

"It is a well-recognised fact that people who have led an immoral life... have no respect for the decencies of life. They do not have moral fibre to respect the integrity of an oath," Mr Herz said.

IQ OF 133

He described Pat Ward as a girl "having an IQ of 133" who could remember what she wanted and could also forget what she did not want to tell. He called her a "Fifth Amendment prostitute."

Mr Herz said here was "a girl who knew more about the facts of life at the age of 15 than my grandmother knew when she died."—United Press.

Wine Growers Protest

Paris, Mar. 30.

Automobile traffic was blocked for several hours here today by carts and tractors belonging to wine growers who were protesting against the Government's wine policy.

The Government in France controls the wholesale price of wine. Recently this price has been reduced, causing protests in the wine growing districts of southern France.

Several persons were slightly injured during today's incidents here, after French special security police arrived on the spot to clear away farmyard vehicles that were blocking local highways.

The local branch of Pierre Poujade's anti-tax inspection movement saw to it that shopkeepers in Saint Gilles kept their stores closed today in sympathy with the wine growers.—France-Presse.

Lady Churchill's Birthday Party

London, Mar. 31.

Lady Churchill, wife of the Prime Minister, will celebrate her 70th birthday on Friday with a family dinner party at No. 10 Downing Street, Sir Winston Churchill's London headquarters, followed by a reception for 150 close friends.—China Mail Special.

Capitol

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POP

MALAYA IS NZ FRONT LINE

Striking Hat

Wearing a striking hat of ermine is the Queen, attending a party given by the Dominions Fellowship Trust at Goldsmiths' Hall, London.—Reuterphoto.

Indonesians Embarrass Australia

Canberra, Mar. 30.

Australian embarrassment over the proposed composition of an Indonesian parliamentary mission is likely to end a plan for the exchange of goodwill delegations between Australia and Indonesia, official sources said tonight.

The seven proposed members of the Indonesian party included one Communist and a member from West New Guinea which Australia recognises as Netherlands territory.

The Australian invitation stirred up a controversy in Djakarta and the Masjumi Party, the strongest opposition group, boycotted the delegation.

The sources said Canberra had informed Indonesia that the Australian Government was unhappy about the composition of the chosen delegation.

The Australian message said the invitation had envisaged representation by both Government and Opposition members.

The sources said they expected the project—which included plans for a return Australian visit—to be postponed indefinitely.—Reuter.

Objection To Recognising Red China

Wellington, Mar. 30.

Mr Eric Halstead, New Zealand's Minister of Social Security, today declared that New Zealand's front line was in Malaya but "if we recognise Communist China and admit her to the United Nations we will be in danger of losing Malaya."

Speaking in the House of Representatives foreign affairs debate Mr Halstead said that every move and every sign of strength shown by Communist China was watched by Asian peoples who reacted accordingly. He added that Asian peoples, encouraged by Communist China, regarded the United Nations as a "gang of weaklings who ought to be despised."

Mr Michael Moohan (Labour) said he disagreed entirely with the contention that Malaya affected the peace and security of New Zealand. He suggested the Government should wait until after the Malayan elections and then discuss with the new administration what steps the Dominion could best take to assist Malaya.

EXPLOITATION

A Government member, Mr Leon Gotz, who was formerly a rubber planter in Malaya from 1913 to 1925, said Britain could not be accused of exploiting Malaya. The only exploitation was by Chinese immigrants, who owned half the tin mines, half the rubber estates and had a controlling influence in trade and commercial circles.

The Chinese, he declared, had even attempted to oust the Malays from their own country.

A Labour backbencher, Mr Philip Connolly, said it was necessary to do something more for Malaya than just send an armed force there. There should also be teams of educators, health experts and commercial men.

He added, however, that he supported what the Government had decided to do because it would help to keep the Communists getting closer to Australia and New Zealand.

But while the present situation prevailed Malaya would never be able to achieve self-government. — China Mail Special.

CHINESE SUBJECTS

London, Mar. 30.

A Labour Member of Parliament, Mr Thomas Reid, said today that if Malaya got self-government, about half the population would already be subjects of Communist China.

Mr Henry Hopkinson, Minister of State for Colonial Affairs, replied: "I should point out that it is the view of the Chinese Government and not in general the desire of the Malayan Chinese themselves to acquire Chinese citizenship."

Mr Reid had asked the number of Chinese in Malaya and Singapore. He also asked what percentage they were in each case of the total native population and what proportion of them claimed dual nationality as Chinese and British-Malayan subjects.

Mr Hopkinson told him:

"In the Federation of Malaya there are about 2,250,000 Chinese, about 38 per cent of the Asian population.

"In Singapore there are about 900,000 Chinese, about 76 per cent of the Asian population.

"By Chinese law all persons of Chinese race have Chinese nationality. About 53 per cent of the Chinese in the Federation are citizens of the Federation and 74 per cent of the Singapore Chinese are citizens of the United Kingdom and colonies.—Reuter.

Czech Attache Seeks Refuge

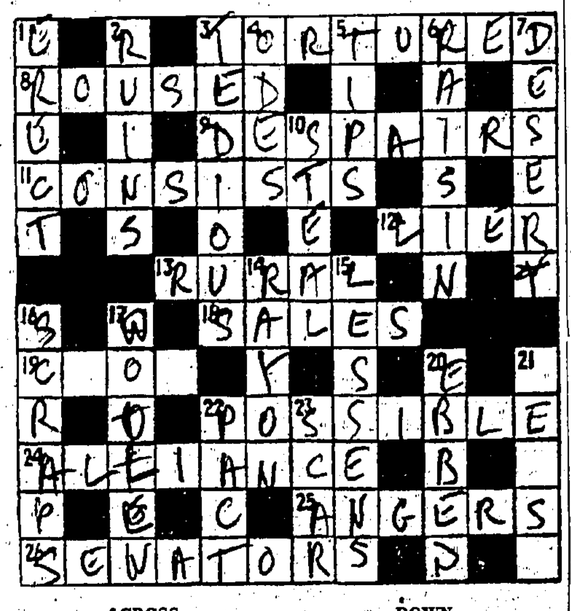
Beirut, Mar. 30.

The commercial attache at the Czechoslovak Legation in Damascus, Mr Richard Sedlacek, has refused to return to Prague, it was learned here today.

He arrived in Beirut today on his way to London where he has been given permission to live. He was accompanied by his wife, Helena, and his five-year-old son, Richard.

He said that he had taken this decision because he would not see his country become a Soviet colony where all liberty and religious freedom was banned.—France-Presse.

A British Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

3 Tormented (8).
8 Awakened (6).
9 Gives up hope (8).
11 Is composed of (8).
12 Fibber (4).
13 Rustic (5).
18 Auctions (5).
19 Friend (4).
22 That can exist (8).
24 League (8).
25 Enrages (6).
26 Legislators (8).

DOWN

1 Build (5).
2 Wrecks (5).
3 Wearisome (7).
4 Poems (4).
5 Gratuities (4).
6 Dried fruit (6).
7 Abandon (8).
10 Purloin (5).
14 Artificial silk (5).
15 Diminishes (7).
16 Bits and pieces (6).
17 Material (6).
20 Declined (5).
21 Stanza (5).
22 Agreement (4).
23 Blemish (4).

YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD.—Across: 3 Molasses, 7 Terse, 8 Location, 10 Eraser, 13 Descend, 15 Love, 17 Aileron, 18 Pallets, 20 Axle, 21 Epistle, 26 Entreq, 27 Admirals, 28 Ennui, 29 Easement. **Down:** 1 Steed, 2 Arias, 3 Melee, 4 Afar, 5 Suitor, 6 Sunken, 9 Ornate, 11 Relax, 12 Scale, 14 Dispel, 15 Least, 16 Voile, 18 Parade, 19 Llamas, 22 Inset, 23 Trunk, 24 Eerie, 25 Trim.

Eden With Dr Brentano

Dr Heinrich von Brentano, who Dr Adenauer has named as his Foreign Minister-to-be, is seen chatting with Sir Anthony Eden during their meeting at the Foreign Office in London.—Express Photo.

TWO-HEADED SEAL

Copenhagen, Mar. 30.

A Danish fisherman indirectly caught a two-headed seal in the Greenland region, it was reported here today.

The fisherman caught a shark, split it open and found inside a seal with two heads (joined at the ears) and three eyes.—France-Presse.

SOLDIER DESCRIBES BEATINGS IN GERMANY

A UNITED States Army Court Martial today convicted Pte William A. Verdine of being absent without leave. But it withheld the prison sentence on grounds he had suffered enough in six years of Communist captivity.

The Court Martial merely sentenced the 28-year-old soldier to forfeit $66 of his pay each month for six months.

Pte Verdine received his sentence impassively. He maintained the same outward composure as when he detailed the beatings, torture, starvation and slave labour he received from the time of his arrest in East Germany in February, 1949, until last January.

PLEADED INNOCENT

Pte Verdine had pleaded innocent to charges that he went AWOL from his 14th armoured Cavalry Regiment stationed near Coburg, West Germany, only a few miles from the Soviet Zone of Germany.

He was returned by the Russians on January 20, almost six years after he disappeared on February 3, 1949.

Pte Verdine told the Court he "wandered" into the Soviet zone of Germany and began a life of "hell" that ended in a slave labour camp in Arctic Russia.

He was sentenced to 53 years' imprisonment by a Soviet military court in East Germany, Pte Verdine said.

The soldier described five "torture chamber" sessions in East German prisons in which, he said, he was handcuffed, forced to stand in icy water, and beaten until he fell down. He was kept without food for up to three days, he said. "The first time was only about two days," he explained in his matter-of-fact voice. "They gave me some water but no food.

COULDN'T SLEEP

"You couldn't sleep. I could never sleep in water anyway. "They took me out of the cell for about 12 hours and then back in again for three days. I was questioned in the cell. I was handcuffed, the hands behind me, and they hit me in the face. But mostly in the throat. I would fall down in the water and the handcuffs would cut my hands and wrists."

Pte Verdine, pale and apparently not quite recovered from his ordeal, was neatly dressed in a knife-creased uniform. He testified without apparent emotion before the Court of three officers and four enlisted men.—United Press.

West Would Win In Long Run

London, Mar. 30.

General Alfred Gruenther, Supreme Allied Commander in Europe, said here tonight that if the Soviet forces attacked the West now they would lose the war even though they might succeed in the first phase of overrunning Europe.

He added: "It would be no consolation to the people of Europe that they would eventually be liberated.

"But it is something Soviet planners would have to bear in mind. It is a deterrent."

General Gruenther, who is on a flying visit from Paris—he returns tomorrow — was addressing members of the European Atlantic group which brings together various organisations and committees interested in the North Atlantic pact.—Reuter.

CORDELL HULL 'UNCHANGED'

Washington, Mar. 30.

The condition of Mr Cordell Hull, 83-year-old former Secretary of State who is in hospital here, "remains essentially unchanged." He suffered a stroke early on Saturday. He did not regain consciousness until Sunday.—United Press.

Eisenhower Points Out Dangers Of Holding Top Level Talks

By Paul Scott Rankine

Washington, Mar. 30.

President Eisenhower today discussed some of the dangers and difficulties of holding top level talks with Soviet leaders, particularly without an agenda.

His remarks, at his Press conference, were interpreted here as comment on, rather than a rejection of, Sir Winston Churchill's renewed plea yesterday for informal talks "at the summit" between Soviet and Western heads of government.

The consensus in high Administration circles now seems to be that there will be top level talks with the Soviet Government eventually but that the form, time and place have still to be settled.

"EMINENT SOURCE"

It is known that Mr Eisenhower and Sir Winston Churchill correspond privately on world problems, and the President today volunteered the reference to "one proposal coming from a very eminent source."

He discussed in general terms the dangers and difficulties involved in Sir Winston Churchill's proposal and ended up by saying that the United States would join in a meeting with Soviet leaders "on any basis" if this could be done without creating a damaging impression.

His principal objection to top level talks was in effect that nations such as Germany, not represented at agendaless meetings, might be concerned at the prospect of the world powers discussing questions affecting them, without their having an opportunity of putting forward their viewpoints.

The President questioned whether it was necessary to work out an entire agenda before a Big Four conference. But he made it clear that he wanted some agenda decided beforehand, if only to enable the Western Powers to consult with all the other governments involved.

The President also emphasised the difficulty of knowing who is the really effective head of the Soviet Government.

Meanwhile the Governments of the United States and Italy expressed the hope that the basis for a fruitful conference with the Soviet Union would be found after ratification of the Paris Agreements by all the signatories.

The American-Italian position on East-West talks was disclosed in a joint statement issued after talks between Italian Premier Mario Scelba and American Government leaders.

Italy and the United States have agreed to continue their efforts for the limitation of armaments on the basis of practical international controls, the statement said.

PERSEVERE

It added the Governments of the two countries would contact concerning the possibility of East-West talks.

The statement said that the US and Italy were agreed that the countries of Europe should persevere in their efforts to reach an ever increasing economic and political unity.—China Mail Special and France-Presse.

BRITAIN REJECTS SOVIET CLAIM

London, Mar. 30.

BRITAIN today rejected Russia's claim that the five-nation disarmament conference taking place here had not been instructed to hold its sessions in secret.

A British Foreign Office spokesman pointed out that the United Nations General Assembly's resolution of November 4 had said that the United Nations Disarmament Commission's sub-committee should meet in private.

"If there are not instructions to meet in private then what are?" the spokesman asked.

He had been asked to comment on the Soviet Foreign Ministry Press Department spokesman, Mr L. F. Ilychev's assertion today that no agreement existed on the secrecy of the sub-committee's proceedings.

The month-old sub-committee's talks are being attended by Britain, France, the United States, Canada and Russia.

The sub-committee held a 3½-hour meeting here today with Mr Jakob Malik, Soviet Ambassador to Britain presiding.

A brief Press statement after today's session said that the sub-committee would meet again tomorrow.—Reuter.

Amsterdam, Mar. 30.

Dutch youth organisations are sending about 1,000 guilders (£100 sterling) worth of medicines to youth in Vietnam in response to an appeal by the 50-nation World Assembly of Youth Congress held in Singapore.—China Mail Special.

Bevan's Position Precarious

BLOW TO GAITSKELL

By Fraser Wighton

London, Mar. 30.

Mr Aneurin Bevan, Socialist leftwinger, accused of flouting Party discipline today escaped expulsion from the Labour Party by promise of future obedience — but was strongly warned by the official leaders that this is his last chance.

The leaders — the 28-member National Executive Committee—took this decision in private session.

They approved a resolution noting that Mr Bevan had given assurances on his conduct from now on but threatened "drastic action" against future offences.

Their resolution also declared the Socialist group in Parliament was "fully justified" in recently barring the leftwinger from its House of Commons organisation.

SAVED BY ATTLEE

Parliamentary quarters afterwards declared the leftwinger owed his "reprieve" —for they consider it no more—to Mr Clement Attlee, who in the past four years has himself been the chief sufferer from Bevanite revolts.

The Executive decision leaves Mr Bevan still in the Party but he remains excluded from the Parliamentary Socialist organisation. Any question of his future readmission will depend on his political conduct.

Meanwhile he will sit as an Independent Labour M.P.

Mr Attlee failed to persuade the Executive to adopt an alternative resolution which would merely have accepted Mr Bevan's written statement presented yesterday to a committee of the leader which interviewed him to secure guarantees on his future conduct.

Mr Bevan's statement said "the charge is that in what I have done and also in the way I have done it I have created difficulties for Mr Attlee and caused him embarrassment in his position of the leader of the Party.

"This was certainly never my intention. But if my action or speech could lend themselves to the interpretation that such was my motive, then I am sincerely sorry and I apologise to Mr Attlee for any pain I may have caused him."

CLAIM NO MORE

Mr Bevan said he asked for nothing more than the opportunity to serve the Labour Party under Mr Attlee's leadership. "In doing so I claim no more privileges than and accept all the obligations shared by other members of the Party."

Bevanites were tonight relieved that their leader had escaped the Party "hatchet" as they call it and believe the door is now open for his return to the Parliamentary fold in due course. But they are chagrined he has been spared only by an edict which supports the disciplinary measures already taken by Parliamentary Socialists—and threatens him with expulsion if he offends again.

Friends of the leftwinger said today's decision showed that the Labour leaders recognised they dared not expel Mr Bevan—much as some of them wanted to do so—because of the disruption it would cause in the movement throughout the country near the time of an election.

They interpreted today's decision also as a blow to Mr Hugh Gaitskell, generally regarded as heading the rightwing anti-Bevanite movement.

Close friends of Mr Bevan said before today's meeting that if the left winger were thrown out the rightwing "hatchet men" would next be after Mr Attlee and that within the foreseeable future Mr Herbert Morrison, 66-year-old former Foreign Secretary, would be leading the Party with Mr Gaitskell at his right hand.

But some of the Party moderates while still unconvinced Mr Bevan's "penitence" means an end to his years' long feud with the official leaders think Mr Attlee "the genius of compromise" as they call him may be right in his tactics. Their hope is that today's decision may strengthen his allegedly weakened authority.—Reuter.

BURGLAR BETRAYED BY WOMAN

Paris, Mar. 30.

RICHARD Lapomme was a true amateur burglar. He never used the tools generally connected with his trade—jemmy, false keys and bludgeon.

He was a watchman in Paris when his wife went to her parents' home to give birth to a child. Left alone, Richard did not know how to spend leisure hours after his day's work. His career in crime began easily.

Passing in front of a private house, he saw that the door was ajar. He waited a while and, as nobody seemed to be around, he entered. He did not go far. Searching the pocket of a few overcoats hanging in the entrance hall, he made a discovery which made his heart beat faster — 100,000 francs worth of banknotes (£100).

TOO EASY

However, the money did not last long. He had found it too easy not to try again. He never broke a door open but entered only those which careless citizens forgot to lock, or he climbed along drainpipes to enter through the upper floor windows.

He soon became known as the "elusive burglar." He was not only interested in money and jewels but also in pretty girls and this caused his downfall.

After several adventures he one night entered a room on the top floor of a house. There was a girl in bed. She said she had no money but the burglar was not angry. As she was pretty, he became enterprising; she yielded easily.

But the burglar was too sentimental. He believed that the girl had been captivated by his charm and gave her a rendezvous for the next day. Although the girl thought that he would never be naive enough to come, he did.

The police had been warned and this was the end to his burglary career. "Women are full of perfidy," he told the police.—France-Presse.

Farewell To Chinese Unit

London, Mar. 30.

A delegation of North Koreans "bade farewell to a departing unit of Chinese Peoples Volunteers" on Monday night, the Communist New China News Agency said today.

The Agency, in a dispatch from Pyongyang, did not mention the strength of the unit.

This is the first unit to leave Korea for home since the Chinese Communists announced last month they were withdrawing six divisions during March and April.—Reuter.

Israel Patrol Surprises Egyptian Commandos

Tev-Aviv, Mar. 30.

ISRAEL today made two new complaints to the United Nations truce observers against alleged encroachment in the Gaza and Genine areas of Southern and Eastern Israel respectively.

The first complaint concerned the Kissufim settlement near the Gaza strip in the Negev Desert, where an Israeli patrol on Wednesday morning allegedly surprised Egyptian commandos digging mine-traps.

The complaints said the Israelis challenged the Egyptians, who retreated across the border under protective fire. There were no casualties.

Israel requested an emergency session of the Israeli-Egyptian Mixed Armistice Commission to hear the case.

The second complaint concerned a Jordanian herd of sheep in Gilboa, east of Genine. This was challenged by Israeli patrols inside Israeli territory and, the complaint said, Jordan patrols began firing from across the border. A session of the Mixed Israeli-Jordanian Commission was requested.

Earlier in the day the Commission condemned both Israel and Jordan for incidents which took place at Zeita on March 27.—United Press.

Britain's Local Government Elections Today

WHO WILL GOVERN LONDON THIS TIME?

By J. W. TAYLOR

London.

THE citizens of London are going to the polls again today (March 31), and their votes will decide whether Labour will continue to direct for another three years the vast administrative machinery required to run the essential services of the greatest city in the British Commonwealth.

Though voting at London County Council elections is never as heavy as at a General Election—only 26 percent cast their votes in 1946, 39 percent in 1949 and 41 percent in 1952—the issue has a national significance, since upon the efficiency and foresight of London's Government rests much of the social and economic future of many millions of people, outside as well as inside the 117 square miles of the administrative county area.

Also, nowadays, with so much "permissive" legislation adopted by Parliament—that is, legislation which confers power to do something only if the local authority wishes to adopt the provisions of a particular Act—local government can play a very large part in fulfilling or obstructing national internal policy.

LCC's Activities

The LCC's activities, directed from the fine County Hall building on the South Bank, which has become one of the notable landmarks of the capital, affect some four million people at every turn of the day. It spends about £60 million every year, of which about a quarter comes from Exchequer grants.

Owning some 150,000 properties and managing several thousand others, it is probably the biggest municipal landlord in the world. It runs 1,357 schools and 163 establishments for further education for some 600,000 students, over 800 school kitchens and dining centres, 66 homes and hostels, 170 welfare centres and over a hundred day nurseries, four museums and historical buildings, 107 parks and open spaces, and also owns 25,000 acres in the Green Belt ringing Greater London.

It maintains 24 road bridges, over 2,000 miles of streets, four tunnels, nine miles of pipe subways for the accommodation of public utility services, and the most important main drainage area in the world. It employs more than 60,000 staffs.

Labour's Gains

The Council itself now consists of 126 Councillors (three for each of the 42 political constituencies in the City of London and the 28 Metropolitan Boroughs) elected every three years, and 21 Aldermen elected by the Councillors for a period of six years, half of them retiring every three years. It works through 15 main committees, but there are also several hundred local committees concerned with health, welfare, school management and child care.

Labour obtained control of the Council for the first time in 1934 after the Municipal Reformers (known as Conservatives since World War Two), had held office for 27 years. The Socialists increased their majority in 1937 and again in 1946 (there were no elections during the war), but had a very rude shock in 1949. This was the first election to be held after the redistribution of constituencies, and an equal number of Conservative and Labour Councillors were returned, with a solitary Liberal at Bethnal Green. The Socialists, however, used their aldermanic votes to retain control, and later won back a Councillor's seat in a by-election.

The year 1952 saw a considerable swing to Labour, who gained some 200,000 votes from the Conservatives and won 92 seats to their opponents' 37. A further redistribution of seats under the recent constituency boundary changes means that the Council is being reduced by three seats this time.

There is a record number of 304 candidates—18 more than three years ago—and 87 of them are women. Labour and Conservatives are contesting every seat, and in addition there are 30 Liberals, 13 Communists and nine from Mosley's Union Movement.

Other Elections

Elections will also be taking place for County Councils throughout England and Wales on various dates between March 31 and April 6, and for borough, urban and rural district, and parish councils in the first half of May.

Though there are only 52 counties on the map, excluding London, there are 61 administrative counties. The reason is that certain geographical counties are divided into separate units. Sussex and Suffolk are divided into two, Yorkshire and Lincolnshire into three. In addition, the Isle of Wight, the Isle of Ely, and the Soke of Peterborough are also administrative counties.

Labour made considerable gains in the county councils in 1952, but even so control only 12. Apart from London, their most spectacular successes were in Lancashire, Essex, Northumberland and the West Riding of Yorkshire, while they substantially reduced the anti-Labour majorities in a number of other counties. In Middlesex, for instance, the Conservative majority was reduced from 40 to five.

One-third

In the borough councils, where Labour control only 117 of 396 boroughs, a third of the council is elected every year. One hundred and eighty-seven of the 566 urban and rural districts councils are also run by Labour councils. District councils are given the option of electing either one-third of their councillors every year or the whole council every three years, and many have chosen to poll triennially. All parish councils are elected for a three-year period.

In Scotland, county and district councils are elected every third year on the second Tuesday in May, while one-third of the town councils are elected annually on the first Tuesday in May.

Parasitic skin disease, itching eczema etc

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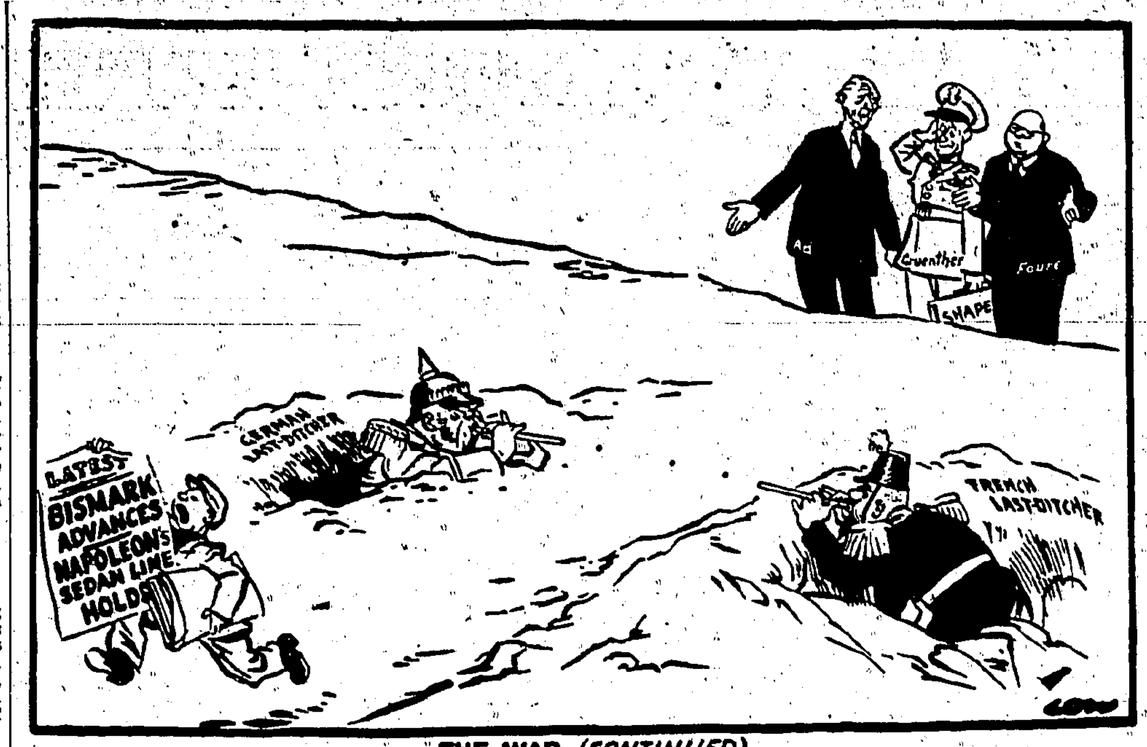

THE WAR *(CONTINUED)*

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THE "INSIDE" MAN DOES IT AGAIN

By Les Armour

Author-journalist John Gunther is about to publish the latest of his "Inside" books — "Inside Africa." Like the others of the same series, it will be devoured in thousands of homes and, doubtless,

be dissected by the "experts." Regardless of the faults they may find, "Inside Africa" can look to a profitable run — for Gunther is that rare bird, a historical commentator who has never lost the common touch.

TO at least five million men, women and children from Paris to Patagonia, from Dallas to Dakar, and from Tokyo to Toronto, the name John Gunther is a bedside magic carpet. Whisper it softly and you can be whisked off to a sherry party under the chandeliers of the chanceries of Europe, guided through the jungles of Brazil, or initiated into the mysterious rites of a Burmese Bhuddist temple.

To most of his millions of ardent fans, Gunther probably appears as a combination of Anthony Eden and Scott of the Antarctic—smooth, jaunty diplomat and tough, courageous explorer rolled into one.

The man himself is neither of these. And that is probably his secret.

At first glance he might, even at 54, look like the schoolboy's image of the great explorer. You might easily imagine him—tall, square, blonde and blue-eyed—leading a grim and determined expedition into some uncharted and perilous jungle.

But the blue eyes lack the steely glint of the glossy adventure magazine drawing. He walks with the loose-limbed easy gait of the man for whom life holds nothing more exciting than an evening by the fireside. And he talks in a slow mid-Western drawl which suggests the placid outlook of a Wisconsin dairy farmer.

The secret of the success is almost certainly just that he has mageged to manhandle the whirl of twentieth century world events into a shape which fits the experiences of the suburbanite whose life centres on the 9:03 and the 5:32.

That is not to suggest that his portraits of people and places are false, or even that he has missed the subtleties of the twentieth century mess. He is, as he always has been, a crack reporter.

REPORTER

But he is a reporter of the school that made the Chicago Daily News famous in the twenties when, a young philosophy graduate from the University of Chicago, he joined it as a cub reporter.

The paper was interested in personalities rather than policies, in colour rather than statistics. It insisted on bringing down the day's news to human terms.

And that is Gunther's philosophy in a nutshell.

At 24, three years after he joined the paper, he was sent to its London bureau.

From there he did roving jobs in Europe and the Near East, writing just the kind of stories that were to become the backbone of his books. In 1935, he became chief London correspondent, but the same year he quit.

He said he was going to write novels. But the reporter in him was too strong. Two years later the first of his "Inside" books—"Inside Europe"—was on the bookstalls, and Gunther was an institution.

An extract from his notebook, part of the notes on his interview with Thomas Masaryk, are an indication of his technique: "Warm handshake; no glasses; old man's eyes—hard to tell the colour of them, probably deep grey; still a fuzz of white hair on the scalp; all his own teeth plus a bit of gold shining when he laughs; plenty of moustache; small beard; glazed, hard, shiny cheeks."

Inessentials? Perhaps. But possibly the clue to the man's character as well.

Sometimes, of course, the technique got out of hand. One reviewer of his biography of Eisenhower remarked: "He gets right off to a piece of personal description which would embarass a beauty queen." The piece of description included phrases like "pink and tan" face, "grin practically as broad as the English Channel" and "friendly eyes looking like spoonfuls of blue sea."

And some people objected to the emphasis on personality. After "Inside Europe," he was accused of forgetting political and economic factors and making the narrative sound as though the fate of Europe depended on the machinations of a handful of men.

He insisted it wasn't intentional. "I never intended to minimise the influence of political or economic factors. I wanted simply to draw attention to personality too."

Again, he has been accused of writing "staccato three-hundred-mile-an-hour journalism" and of arranging his material badly so that it sometimes read like a long collection of newspaper paragraphs, held together only by the hard covers of the book.

ON TOP

That, however, is probably just the result of his almost incredible thoroughness.

For his new book, "Inside Africa," he spent five years gathering material. It added up to more than a million words of notes—a million words which have had to be boiled down to a bare 350,000 words of text.

And that is a typical example.

To get a million words into 350,000 and not lose any of the facts, a three-hundred-mile-an-hour style is the only solution. And some of the facts, even then, are going to dangle loosely.

But they will all be there. And they will all be intelligible.

It may not add up to literature. But it does add up to intelligent, entertaining and informative journalism. Gunther pretends to no more.

In fact, he regards his books as so many editions of a newspaper.

They are constantly under revision. No new edition comes out unchanged.

He spends hours of his day reading through stacks of clippings, reams of reports, mountains of statistics. And, whenever he can, he returns to the scene of his writings, checking his descriptions against changes in architecture, changes in dress, changes in the current slang and the current catch phrases of the people.

Judged by his own standards or the standards of his trade, he still comes out tops.

MADAME CHAUVEL WON'T BE MERELY A GHOST

London.

MADAME CHAUVEL, the wife of the new French Ambassador in London, stepped into difficult shoes.

Madame Massigli, who was there before her, was a paragon of elegance, an arbiter of taste, was cultivated, artistic, musical, literary, and altogether almost too good to be true.

Madame Chauvel has no intention of playing Madame Massigli's ghost.

I went to see her at No. 11, "Millionaires Row," in the beautiful house, hung with tapestries and sparkling with chandeliers, which is the Ambassador's Residence.

I found a twinkling, bird-like woman who is gloriously unorthodox for "the diplomatic."

You'll be unlikely to see her languidly clapping white-gloved hands at a symphony concert . . . but you may find her wrapped in a rug at a football match. (She was at Twickenham the other day).

I don't think you'll spot her at a Picasso private view . . . but you might at a cine.ma where there's a rattling good Western.

"I am inartistic, un-musical and completely un-intellectual" she told me firmly. "I read a lot of detective stories, I like movies with plenty of action, and I love sport."

• •

"But your husband is a poet and a painter," I said, "and your children have the same talents. I'm sure you are underplaying your artistic tastes."

"No, not a bit. You see, my husband does these things very well. I would hate to follow behind doing them all very badly. I have my own tastes and carve my own niche — and it works very happily."

"What else do you enjoy besides sport?" I asked her.

"I love parties, and I enjoy them equally whether I'm hostess or guest. I like the fresh people and new faces . . . the talk and the clothes . . . I love the opera, frankly not for the music, but for the spectacle. "Entertaining comes easily to me, for I'm a natural *haustrau*. If I'm expecting six people for luncheon and it turns out to be 36, it doesn't worry me."

I asked her about the running of a big embassy. Does she supervise the details herself?

"With the food," she said, "the chef suggests the menus, but I make the final choice. We have French cooking, of course, for big parties, but occasionally we have Chinese or Arab dishes when there are a few of us.

"I was born in Peru, brought up in Persia and Japan, and married in China, and I have studied cookery all over the world.

"As to the way I plan my work, I have no routine at all. I answer letters at midnight if I feel like it."

• •

I asked Madame Chauvel if she has any crusade which is specially near her heart.

"Yes, one," she told me. "I have always strongly supported women's movements. I shan't be happy until women have the vote all over the world—and power too." She looked quite formidable as she said it.

And I asked what was the hardest thing about being an ambassador's wife.

The answer came back like a bullet, she didn't have to stop to think.

"Being amiable to everyone you invite, whether you like them or not. That takes diplomacy."

Which is something I'm sure Madame Chauvel has got.

She isn't conventionally "diplomatic." She is shrewd and forthright, rather than subtle and suave. She will risk having a real opinion and can dispense with ceremony.

But she gave me a strong impression of knowing the ropes.

Joan Hinton

From Antony Terry

WHAT GERMANS WANT

Berlin.

IF Hitler came back to Germany today 49 people out of 50 would greet him as the man who gave them the best days of their lives. They look back longingly to the time when the tramp of the Fuehrer's jackboots echoed in Europe.

The fact that they still regard life under the Nazis as a glorious memory is revealed in a nation-wide public opinion check which put the finger on 50,000,000 Germans and took eight years to compile.

In its jazzy red-white-black cover (the Nazi colours) the survey has become a best-seller overnight.

BRITISH 'HELL'

West German Government officials are praying that its revelations will not become common knowledge in other countries because of the effect on public opinion in Britain and the United States.

And what does the average German think of Britain?

They consider life in Britain just plain hell, with the Briton a pitiful figure, no better off than the Russian.

Only one German in a hundred thinks life under the Union Jack is worth living at all. The remainder would just as soon live under the Hammer and Sickle.

More than two-thirds of all Germans admit frankly that for them Nazism was a "good thing."

And here authors Elizabeth Noelle and Eric Neumann sound a warning note.

They point out that, contrary to expectation, the Nazis' strongest supporters include a large proportion of Germans who today may "temporarily" back the democratic government of Dr Adenauer.

Though Hitler no longer tops the "pin-up poll" of popularity, one German in every eight believes he did more for Germany than any other single person.

Almost as many Germans regard Hitler as "the greatest statesman of the century, and his real genius will only be appreciated in the years to come."

To 80 percent of all Germans the fall of Hitler brought them their worst time. Since many were near starving after 1945, this is to be expected. But the surprise follows.

For nearly 10 percent think they are worse off today than at any time before—despite the fact that statistics show German living standards today are better than at any time since Hitler came to power and are still improving.

BEST QUALITIES

To a further eight percent the ascent of the Nazis to power brought an end to the worst times they had ever experienced.

Still scratching their heads over their discoveries of what goes on inside the German mind, the investigators went on to find out what Mr Average Teuton considers are his own best qualities.

Here he is perhaps nearest the truth in pin-pointing "hard work, reliability and honesty" as the characteristics for which people admire the Germans.

Germans, who admit that they are probably unpopular with their neighbours, believe it is because other countries are "jealous of the Germans' fine qualities."

Withholding comment on the results of the spotlight they have beamed on the secret thoughts of Mr. Average German, the authors find a ray of hope in two facts:

Most Germans are on the side of the West in a conflict with Russia, and Germans do not want another war—not even to win back the half of their country now under Communist rule.

The Quickest Wedding In The World . . . And The Most Prolonged

By ALAN McGREGOR

Cairo.

YOU can get married in a moment in a cafe here, or anywhere else you fancy in this country — that is, if you are a Moslem, as most Egyptians are.

Getting unwed again is just about as simple.

If it's a bad case of love at first sight, all an Egyptian gentleman has to do is to seize a couple of witnesses and tell the lady of his choice loudly and clearly: "I marry you."

She makes a like declaration—and they are man and wife. No clergyman, no registrar—and no expense.

This super-simplified procedure is known as the "de facto" marriage. It is recognised in the "Sharia," the Moslem religious legal code. Egyptian civil law, by leaving the question entirely to the Sharia, also recognises indirectly the legality of the world's quickest wedding.

Unless the marriage is subsequently confirmed by written notification to a Sharia officer—a sheikh, that is—the woman has no right to any allowance if her husband walks out. Nor can he demand that his wife return to him, if she is the one who quits.

For Divorce

Neither party, in fact, has a scrap of legal responsibility towards the other. For a divorce, all that is needed are two witnesses again, and "I divorce you."

For all that, the de facto marriage has plenty of devotees here. The latest Cairo municipal statistics show that no less than 684,223 persons are "living in concubinage."

Most of them are probably de facto married, but too cautious to risk making written notification of the fact.

This matrimonial short-cut is the answer to many a widow's prayer — if her husband was a civil servant and she is entitled to draw his pension so long as she does not marry again. "De facto," she can be happily and respectably wed, and still have the pension.

Right at the opposite extreme is a wedding in the Yemen, the remote little "Tibet of Arabia" adjoining the Aden Protectorate. There, a special law defines step by step the procedure for marriage — the dowry, the articles of the bride's trousseau, the price to be paid for baths for the bride and her two bridesmaids, and for the bridegroom and his best man.

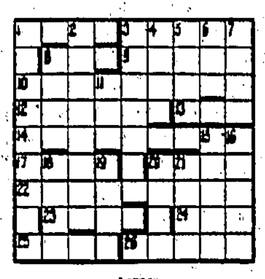
This law even stipulates the menu of the wedding banquet, apparently to ensure that nobody starts his wedded life in a feverish temper. And any proud father who lays on too sumptuous a spread is punished by a fine and "a week's forced residence."

Forbidden

It is also laid down in the law that no woman invited to a wedding feast shall wear "a dress finer and gayer than that of the bride." An offending guest "will have her dress confiscated and delivered to the flames."

After the wedding, incidentally, it is strictly forbidden for a husband to offer his wife gifts of jewellery or clothes — but only for six months!

CROSSWORD

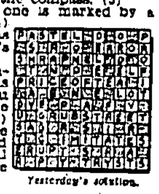


Across

1. Pile the hay here. (4)
3. Signs for a forecast. (5)
8. Languid looking. (3)
9. The letters are in me to make a Scots loch. (5)
10. As one hundred in fate all around. (9) 12. A prayer. (6)
13. The drink is cut short. (3)
14. A tale bore is often over this. (9)
17. Piety without sincerity makes an angle. (4)
20. The pool may be in lakeland. (4)
22. Memories often are. (9)
23. Acid-penned artist does. (4)
24. Double! It's an African terrorist. (3)
25. Bombastic fellow does. (4)
26. Social climber may achieve high one. (5)

Down

1. This will soon be compulsory on all cars. (9)
2. Tan to 26 Across and you get a Spanish rhythm instrument with finger-tip control. (8)
3. This indicates that the 3 Across are not propitious. (7)
4. Not just a few. (4)
5. As after a pause in conversation. (4)
6. The end of 2 Down. (3)
7. Ooze. (4)
8. There is something heart-rending about this sound. (4)
11. Do you mind if someone calls you this when it's time to go home? (3)
15. You can stand this in good company. (5)
16. Before due, put down two points of the compass. (5)
18. Restricted one is marked by a roadsign. (4)
19. Sounds as if the limo's laid it. (4)
20. But a turnabout means that you must raise the wind! (4)
21. Find the man and these will make the play. (4)



Yesterday's solution.

• BY • THE • WAY •

by Beachcomber

CRITICS of Narkover and its ultra-modern system of education must be feeling abashed today. A headmaster, in an address, has come out boldly for freedom.

Among the more remarkable of his utterances was this: "If a boy doesn't want to learn mathematics, that's nobody's business but his own." A blunt hint to parents not to interfere. Finding chain-smoking rampant among the younger boys, the headmaster suggested a rule to curb the habit, but he was "outvoted by an enormous majority of the boys." And, of course, the headmaster's vote "counts no more than any boy's vote." In this school there is no religion, "because the children are too busy living to think about God." I can well believe that.

What happens to the headmaster on the day when the boys vote in a solid block for no more lessons of any sort? After all, it's none of his business.

Virtuosity

A CRITIC the other day repeated the old phrase about an actor who could make even Bradshaw sound interesting. So could I, if my audience consisted of people who wanted to catch trains. Thiebault, in his Memoirs, tells the story of an officer on Massena's staff who used to make himself and his audience cry by reciting the names of the months. With March, tears would come into his eyes, with April his voice would falter, and when he got to August he would break down completely, sobbing as though his heart would break. At a suburban literary society in Shropshire, an extract from the List of Huntingdonshire Cabmen was read as a poem called "Frustration." The applause was lukewarm. Many were puzzled.

The slipping hat

DEAR SIR,

The suggestion that a man who wears his hat at a jaunty angle is trying to be saucy with girls is absurd. The sauciest young man I ever knew wore his hat perfectly straight on his head, and my uncle, a verger for 39 years, always wore his hat almost over one ear. One cannot generalise in these matters. And if one is going to rush to a psychiatrist every time one's hat slips on one's head, the only result will be painful self-consciousness. There are more important things in life than a straight hat.

Yours truly,
Arlette Bibbing

• JACOBY • ON BRIDGE

This Contract Is Very Difficult

By OSWALD JACOBY

TOURNAMENT experts will assure you, if you ask them, that the most difficult of all contracts is one no-trump. Many game and slam contracts are absolute lay-downs, but you will seldom play the hand at one no-trump unless the strength is so evenly divided that it's very hard to tell which side can make a majority of the tricks.

In today's hand, for example, the high-card strength was equally divided. Each side had 20 points in high cards. The struggle sometimes went one way and sometimes the other.

	NORTH 19 ♠ A Q 10 8 7 ♥ A 9 7 ♦ K J 4 ♣ J 10	
WEST ♠ K 4 ♥ K Q 5 2 ♦ Q 6 5 ♣ 9 8 5 3		EAST (D) ♠ J 6 5 3 ♥ 8 6 ♦ A 10 3 2 ♣ K Q 7
	SOUTH ♠ 9 2 ♥ J 10 4 3 ♦ 9 8 7 ♣ A 6 4 2	

North-South vul.

East	South	West	North
Pass	Pass	Pass	1 ♠
Pass	1 N.T.	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Opening lead—♣ 3

when his hand was played in the recent national tournament in Atlanta.

At many tables, West opened the deuce of hearts. This gave South the chance to develop three heart tricks immediately, and declarer usually made his contract without trouble.

At one table, West opened the fourth-best club on the theory that he preferred to keep his high hearts for use as entries later on. This opening lead struck oil. East held the first trick with the queen of clubs, held the second trick with the king of clubs, and continued the suit. South won the third trick with the ace of clubs, discarding a small heart from the dummy.

South now led the nine of spades from his hand. West saw no advantage in covering with the king, so he played low without hesitation. South let the nine of spades ride, and East won with the jack. East returned the eight of hearts, and West put up the queen to force out dummy's ace.

Declarer didn't know that he could catch the king of spades by just laying down the ace, so he returned the nine of hearts from the dummy in the hope of promoting a trick in that suit. West won with the king of hearts and promptly cashed his last club, dummy discarding a spade.

West could see that a diamond or heart return would help declarer, so he plumped dummy in by returning the king of spades. Dummy could cash three spades but then had to guess the best way of leading away from the diamonds.

At the end, South guessed wrong by leading the jack of diamonds out of the dummy. West won with the queen and returned a diamond, allowing East to win the last two tricks. At this table, therefore, alert defence managed to set the contract two tricks.

CARD Sense

Q—The bidding has been:

North	East	South	West
1 Club	Pass	1 Diamond	Pass
1 Heart	Pass	?	

You, South, hold: Spades K-J-2, Hearts 9-7-5-4, Diamonds Q-9-6-3-2, Club 3. What do you do?

A—Bid two hearts. As in yesterday's hand, you have only 6 points in high cards, but you have four-card trump support and a singleton. You might easily miss a game if you passed.

TODAY'S QUESTION

The bidding is the same as in the question just answered. You, South, hold: Spades 8-7-2, Hearts Q-7-5-4, Diamonds K-J-6-3, Clubs K-3. What do you do?

Answer Tomorrow

"Well! Did you see how she looked at you, George?"

YOUR BIRTHDAY... By STELLA

THURSDAY, MARCH 31

BORN today, you possess outstanding natural talents and you must do all in your power to develop them to the utmost. You are inclined to be rather restless with your lot and will flit from one thing to another, hoping to find something that will bring you contentment. Just learn that you will never be a hundred percent contented. You are too much the perfectionist and expect the practically impossible.

You like to plan things on a large scale. Since you are also able to handle minute detail with such speed and exactness, you should be warned against being pushed into a type of work which will exploit this talent and ignore your personal initiative and individualism. You were born to lead.

However, you are also a person of moods. Sometimes you will be on the top—sometimes in a brooding fit of melancholy which you, yourself, hardly understand. Learn that the latter means you probably do not have enough cultural interests in your life. Widen your horizon of interests in what goes on around you. Love and romance will play an important role in your life, so be very careful in selecting your marriage partner.

Among those born on this date are: John La Farge, artist; Hayden, composer; Edward Fitzgerald, scholar; Descartes, philosopher; Pope Pius XI; and William M. Hunt, artist.

To find what the stars have in store for you tomorrow, select your birthday star and read the corresponding paragraph. Let your birthday star be your daily guide.

FRIDAY, APRIL 1

ARIES (Mar. 21-Apr. 20)—Finish the necessary desk work at the office, so that your week-end will be free for recreation.

TAURUS (Apr. 21-May 21)—Procrastination is not a good solution to any problem—especially today. Finish the job!

GEMINI (May 22-June 21)—A new approach to your work may be the basis for excellent profits for you in the near future.

CANCER (June 22-July 23)—Routine will prove the most rewarding, just now. Don't attempt anything startling or venturesome.

LEO (July 24-Aug. 23)—Begin the new month with a positive, aggressive attitude and you will be able to reap excellent rewards.

VIRGO (Aug. 24-Sept. 23)—Let fact, not fiction, determine the course of your life, this month. Save dreams for the sleeping hours!

LIBRA (Sept. 24-Oct. 23)—Don't talk too much about your business plans. Publicising them may only impede your objective.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22)—Seek emotional balance so that there will be calm and happiness on the home front. It is up to you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 22)—A really good opportunity may be offered you today. Be prepared to make an immediate decision.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 23-Jan. 20)—Credit is always important, so be sure you keep yours in the A-1 class! Pay all bills promptly.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21-Feb. 19)—Take one thing at a time; finish it and then go on to the next. In that way, you will make the best progress.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20)—Pay close attention to detail at this time and you will discover that it really pays dividends.

TARGET

N	R	E
L	N	I
C	I	O

HOW many words of four letters or more can you make from the letters in the square on the left? In making each word the letters in each of the small squares may be used once only. Each word *must* contain the large letter in the centre square, and there *must* be at least one nine-letter word in the list. No plurals; no proper names; no foreign words. TODAY'S TARGET: 28 words, good; 32 words, very good; 39 words, excellent. Solution tomorrow.

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION: Epos espy open opine orpin osprey peon peony pern person PRESONIFY pier pine pinery piny poesy poise pone pony pore pose poser posy prey prise prison prone prose prosify prosy pure repo ripe ripen rope ropy sepoy snip snipe sniper sniny spin spine spiny spire spiry spore spry.

DUMB-BELLS

WOMANSENSE

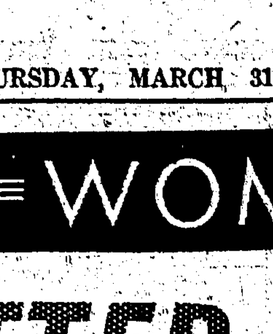
GLITTER YEAR

SPRING 1955 . . . Paris brings a new sparkling look to fashion . . . and furniture.

Paris.

TO match the sparkle of these spring days, Paris adds a bit more glitter to.....HATS, made in natural panama with all the colour concentrated on brims edged round with tiny, many-coloured mirror discs....HAIRDOS, scattered with huge pin-on rhinestones to match earrings made of outsize brilliants.....SPIKE HEELS — thirteen centimetres (five inches) high and studded with brilliants.....New furniture, ALL made out of sparkling glass.

The new exhibition of contemporary furniture at the Musee des Arts Decoratifs in Paris (it is hard to find, because the little museum is tucked away in the Rue de Rivoli facade of the sprawling Louvre) is startling a lot of young-marrieds who thought that glass went out with all-white drawing-rooms.



Left: A plain Panama straw hat trimmed with rows of small, coloured mirror discs.

Right: A flowered cotton dress for Spring.

Now they have learned that some of the best-known interior decorators in Paris are using glass for furniture designed for the new apartments which, as in London, are being squeezed into reconstructed houses here.

SPACE-SAVER

One of Robert Ponsart's space-making ideas is a living-room cabinet made up of bottle-green and black opaline glass panels. The cabinet is raised up on spindle legs so that the whole thing is out of reach of a femme-de-menage's broom.

And—good idea—an oval-shaped opaline glass tray is attached to one leg and it can be swivelled out of the way under the cabinet when it isn't being used as a handy coffee table.

A new emphasis is being put on femininity this spring. Chanel's mannequins, for instance, don't wear any rouge at all; use transparent powder and a new lipstick which is called "rosebud."

They all wear petticoats, too—although these are not meant to show. Mademoiselle Chanel loves the femininity of hand-embroidered slips worn under the simplest day dresses. Her evening dresses are worn over petticoats edged with wide bands of fragile lace.

Handwork is also going into the summer dresses which the French wholesalers are showing a ready-to-wear clientele. They are using lots of flower-printed cottons—very feminine—as well as satin-surfaced cottons in tender rose-pink, white, citron-yellow and peony-red.

Paris prices for dresses like these range from seven to fifteen thousand francs (about £7 to £15) but although French manufacturers are anxious to export to England, duty, plus purchase tax, plus the store's mark-up, would bring prices way up past English prices.

THE ANSWER

For the women who can't afford to buy new spring dresses at current haute couture prices which, at one of the top dress houses, may average the equivalent of £180 for a suit and from £400 to £500 for a gala evening gown, the answer is that most houses will reserve dresses from their collections for their old clients, who can get them at the end of the season for maybe a quarter of their original cost.

Even with these reductions for mannequin-worn models there are still plenty of elegant Frenchwomen who think it well worth while flying to London to shop. Pet buys over here include twin-sets, cotton dresses, shoes and low-priced knit two-pieces from a well-known Oxford Street store.

—Betty Wilson

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SIMPLE BUDGET DISHES

By Alice Denhoff

HERE are some simple dishes that are easy on the budget.

Salmon - and - Macaroni Casserole makes a good luncheon or supper dish.

To serve 4, combine 1 c. cooked macaroni, 2 tbsp. butter and ½ tsp. salt. Arrange in bottom of greased baking dish.

Combine 1 c. flaked tinned or leftover cooked salmon with 1 tin condensed tomato soup, 1 c. sour cream, ½ tsp. allspice, 2 tbsp. chopped sweet pickle, ¼ tsp. powdered sage and tsp. dried parsley flakes. Pour over macaroni. Bake 20 to 25 min. in 350° F. oven.

COTTAGE PIE

Old-fashioned though it may be, Cottage Pie still offers one of the nicest methods of using up cooked beef, veal or lamb.

To serve 4, put ½ lb. chopped, cooked meat in casserole. Add salt and pepper to taste and 1 c. hot water or gravy.

Mix ½ tsp. salt, ½ c. hot milk, tbsp. butter, ⅛ tsp. celery salt, ⅛ tsp. pepper, ¼ tsp. garlic salt with 2 c. hot, mashed potatoes and spread on meat. Garnish well with paprika. Bake at 400° F. until bubbling brown.

CHICKEN FRICASSEE

For something special in the line of fricassee of chicken, try the following recipe, which makes 6 to 8 portions.

Have 2 "fryers" of 2½ to 3 lb. each. Clean poultry and sprinkle with salt and pepper.

Melt 4 oz. butter in large, heavy frying pan or deep Dutch oven. Turn heat low.

Finely chop 2 medium-sized onions and spread in pot; add chicken. Cover and saute gently about 10 min., taking care to brown neither chicken nor onions.

Scald, skin and cut up 4 medium-sized, ripe tomatoes. Add to chicken with 2 tsp. paprika. Stir together gently; cook slowly another 10 minutes.

Mix 3 c. thin cream or rich top milk with ½ tsp. baking soda and pour over chicken. Mix gently. Cook, covered, until chicken is thoroughly cooked, about 35 min.

To serve, remove chicken to platter and strain sauce over top of chicken, although whole. Sauce may be served, if preferred.

LAMB CURRY

Try a curry to take care of leftover lamb. Melt 3 tbsp. butter in heavy skillet; add 3 medium onions, coarsely chopped. Cook until onion is slightly browned. Blend in 2 tbsp. flour, tsp. salt, add 2 c. water, stirring constantly until mixture boils. Add 3 tsp. curry powder, 1 bouillon cube, 3 c. cubed roast lamb. Cover and simmer 20 min.

Serve on mounds of hot, cooked rice.

Novel Fashion Note

Fruit Basket Handbags

New York.

LOOK for the basket handbag to continue as a favourite accessory with summer cottons. One line features fruit and flower decorations almost realistic enough to pick.

Typical of this group, made from outsize baskets imported from Madeira, is a huge square basket enamelled in gay yellow and ornamented with miniature oranges and lemons. It comes with a co-ordinated belt of clear plastic with a cluster of the oranges and lemons hiding the fastening. Another, called strawberry parfait, is enamelled white and covered with lacquered strawberries.

Nita Jonas, the designer of this line, suggested the basket bags for town wear as well as for informal occasions.

Why do women seek the novel in accessories?

"To be different from other women of course," she said. "They want a conversation piece."—United Press.

BOYS' AND GIRLS' MAGAZINE

Why Trees Undress

—They're Going to Sleep for the Winter—

By MAX TRELL

Mr Merlin came out from behind the bookcase where he lived.

THE nights had turned cold and sharp, for it was already winter. Most of the trees in the garden stood with bare branches. Here and there a few withered leaves still clung to the trees. But by and large the leaves had gone away.

Where Do Leaves Go

"Where do they go to and why do they go away?" Knarf the shadow-boy with the turned-about name asked his sister Hanid.

"They fall to the ground," Hanid said. "Or the wind blows them to the North or the East or the South or the West." But she didn't know why the leaves should break away from the trees just because winter came.

"Somebody must know why," said Knarf.

Just then Mr Merlin the Magician came out from behind the bookcase where he lived. He was wearing a dressing gown decorated with (of all things!) oak leaves so Knarf and Hanid stopped him at once and asked him why leaves fell off the trees or blew away with the winds just because winter came.

"It's natural," said Mr Merlin.

"Natural?" said Knarf, wondering at this answer which he didn't quite understand.

"If you were a tree," said Mr Merlin the Magician, "you'd want to get rid of your leaves, too."

"Yes, but we aren't trees," said Hanid.

"And we never can be trees," said Knarf.

"We can take care of that," said Mr Merlin.

He mumbled something, waved his hand, twirled around on one toe, then suddenly reached out and pulled Knarf and Hanid under his leaf-decorated-dressing-gown.

There was a puff of smoke. Under the dressing gown everything was dark. But Knarf and Hanid felt their feet sinking deeper and deeper into the ground.

And all at once, there they were, out in the garden.

Mr Merlin was an oak tree, tall and sturdy.

Knarf and Hanid were two slender birches, thin and graceful.

The cold winter wind was blowing.

The three trees had all their leaves.

"But we don't need them," Mr Merlin was saying from deep inside his trunk. "We're going to sleep. We have to undress before we go to sleep. We have to take off our leaves."

"Yes, that's right," said the two slender birches. "We have to undress before we go to sleep."

"I'll blow your leaves away," said the wind.

And it plucked them all off with its windy fingers. Some it dropped at the trunk of the trees. Some it carried over the hill and far away. And finally all the leaves were gone except two or three on each tree.

Winter Dreams

"Let them stay on," said Mr Merlin. "They'll sleep with us! Good night until the spring."

"Good night until the spring," Knarf and Hanid answered. Then they all went to sleep!

Of course, Knarf and Hanid woke up in their beds the next morning. They weren't trees any more! Perhaps it was all a dream. But they did understand why trees undress themselves of their leaves before they went to sleep for the long winter.

CHESS PROBLEM

By S. MITRINOVIC

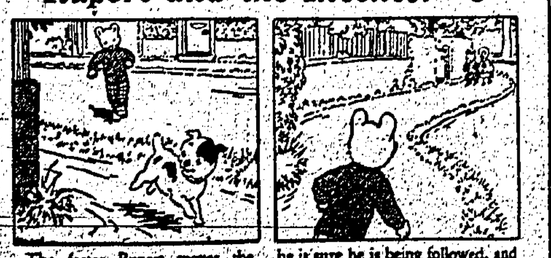
Black, 12 pieces.

White, 10 pieces.

White to play: mate in two.

Solution to yesterday's problem: 1, P—Q5; *threat* 2, Q—Kt6 (ch); 1 . . . Q×QB; 2, Kt×QP (dis ch); 1 . . . R (B7)×B or P; 2, Kt—K2 (dis ch); 1 . . . B×B; 2, Kt—Kt6 (dis ch); 1 . . . Kt×B; 2, Kt—R5 (dis ch); 1 . . . Kt×P; 2, Kt×Kt (dis ch), etc.

Rupert and the Inventor—3



The faster Rupert moves the faster goes the puppy, always keeping a few yards ahead. "I do believe you are asking me to have a game with you!" Rupert laughs. "Well, I can't spare many minutes. Where do you want to go?" Snuffy puts on speed when he is sure he is being followed, and when the little bear rounds the next corner the mischievous puppy is no longer in sight. "I must ask Lily Duckling and Willie Mouse if they saw where he went," thinks Rupert, hurrying forward to meet his two friends.

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THEY SCORED A GREAT VICTORY

The Army AA team of Captain J. E. Mulvaney (third from left), Cfsmn. Petrie (second from left), Cpl. Bailey and Bdsmn. Walden scored the biggest upset victory of the Colony Athletic Championships at Caroline Hill on Sunday when they won the 4 x 100 Metres Relay from the highly favoured HKAAC quartet of Robert Marques, Eddie Loureiro, Billy McCall and Stephen Xavier. Walden just held off Xavier by a whisker.—China Mail Photo.

YOUNG GIRLS FACE 6 MONTHS OF GOLF ADVENTURE

by James Goodfellow

INTRODUCING Mrs B. R. Bostock, 5 ft. 4 in. of charm, poise and golfing ability. She captains the team of girls who, leaving London on May 31 for a six months' golfing adventure, will tour Australia and New Zealand.

Listen to her, brimful of confidence, as she talks of the youngest-ever side, one a teenager and the others in the early twenties, to visit the Commonwealth.

"A lot of good young players are coming up: this is the pick. And they have a future. The Ladies' Golf Union stand to benefit a great deal.

"Team leader will be Curtis Cup girl Janette Robertson. All five will play in the singles; probably I shall play in the foursomes. Big attraction will be the Australian and New Zealand championships.

"Australia and New Zealand are dress conscious and I am anxious that the team should be nicely turned out. They are to have LGU blazes with a special badge (British Junior team), white shirts and grey skirts. They may also have cashmere Larkspur twin sets.

SOCIAL SIDE

"Of course, there is more to it than playing. The social side must be stressed. Speaking?—oh, I do not write my speeches; I feel you miss points if you are not spontaneous.

"What will the tour cost the girls? I expect their personal expenses for odds and ends will be at least £10 a month.

"As the return journey is by way of the Panama Canal, the team will be circling the globe."

Captaincy is taken in her stride by Mrs Bostock. For two years she has been captain of the English women's international team and was captain of the English girls against Scottish girls.

She took a team to Scandinavia in 1952, when Jeanne Bisgood won the Swedish championship and Elizabeth Price the Danish championship. She has been captain of Moor Park Ladies and Herts Ladies.

MRS. BOSTOCK—her trophies cover a table.

STUDIED LAW

No national titles have come her way. But trophies covering a table at her home, near Moor Park course, are tributes to her prowess (handicap 4).

The wife of a whaler, Mrs Bostock married in her last year at Dublin University, where she studied law.

Scottish international **Janette Roberson** No. 1 golfer of the lucky five, captured the admiration of the crowd at Merion, U.S.A., by her skill and determination in the last Curtis Cup match.

Another Scottish member of the team, **Dorothy Somerville**, student daughter of a Glasgow medical specialist, has been overshadowed by Janette's performance. Now she is developing as a strong, vigorous player.

Of the others, sturdy **Bridget Jackson** is not only the Girls' champion, but she holds the Midlands senior championship.

Veronica Anstey played for Warwickshire, winners of the English county finals, and **Gillian Atkinson**, 21-year-old shorthand-typist, is a Yorkshire county player.

The team arrive at Fremantle on June 27 and after three months' touring fly to New Zealand on October 1.

—(London Express Service)

NOTICE

THE HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB

Special Cash Sweep on the Hong Kong Derby

Saturday, 9th April, 1955.

Over 500,000 tickets sold to date.

The Sale of Cash Sweep Tickets on the above will close on Friday, 8th April, as follows:—

382 Nathan Road, Kowloon, at 4.00 p.m.

5 D'Aguilar Street at 5.00 p.m.

Queen's Building, Ground Floor, Chater Road, at 6.00 p.m.

The Draw will be held in the Public Betting Hall at the Race Course, at 10.00 a.m. on Saturday, 9th April, 1955.

By Order of the Stewards,
PEAT, MARWICK, MITCHELL & CO.
Treasurers.

Philippine Davis Cup Team Arriving Today

The Hongkong Lawn Tennis Association confirmed this morning that the Philippine Davis Cup team comprising Felicissimo Ampon, Raymundo Deyro and Johnny Jose have accepted the HKLTA invitation to play exhibition matches in the Colony.

The visitors are expected to arrive by Pan American Airways today at 1 p.m.

If the weather holds good, the exhibition matches are expected to be held at the Hongkong Cricket Club on April 1 and 2, commencing at 4.30 p.m.

The Philippine team qualified to meet Japan in the Zone Final when they beat Burma in the Eastern Zone Davis Cup competition yesterday.

Army Hockey XI

The following have been selected to represent the Army 'A' team against Recreio 'A' tomorrow. May we remind all hockey followers that this game is usually an annual classic at the end of the season:

Lt Boxall, WO II Taylor, Sgt Peberdy, 2/Lt Eardley, WO II Petters, Tpr Martin, Bdsm Felton, Cfn Cox, SQMS Allison, Sgt Smith, 2/Lt Scoones.

CAN CAMPBELL REGAIN WORLD WATER-SPEED RECORD FOR BRITAIN?

By GORDON THOMAS

He eased open the throttle. At nearly two miles a minute spray swirled crazily behind him.

Donald Campbell, son of British speed king, the late Sir Malcolm, was out to break the world water-speed record.

The speed built up. The boat's snaking and skidding were harder to control. They threatened to tip the craft on to its back.

Campbell clamped harder on the bucking steering-wheel, not knowing that he was churning the cold, grey water like a giant egg-whisk.

The speedometer was the focal point of his entire existence. The white needle sneaked higher. He swallowed hard and passed his tongue over dry lips.

RECORD ATTEMPT

It was like that on his last record attempt. He can expect all that—and more—when he makes a fresh try in the near future. For Campbell has to work out the legacy left him by his father and take his streamlined jet-craft over water at 200 m.p.h.

If he can, he will regain for Britain the world water-speed record, presently held by American Stanley Sayers at 178 m.p.h.

But why? Already three brave men have died in attacks on this record. Sir Henry Seagrave, John Cobb and Italy's Verga Marius. Campbell is not renowned for his dare-devilry. He has a lovely wife, a family, a home, security. Why share a cockpit with Death?

Had Campbell been cast in the same mould as his famous father, the answer might have been easier. For speed's sake. For the tingling exhilaration it brings. For the same reason that men climbed Everest—just to be the first to do it.

But that does not mean that Campbell is an unwilling heir to his kingdom of speed. He was raised in an atmosphere of super-efficient machinery and roaring exhausts; yet, typical of his Scots forebears, he has contrived to rationalise the heady mixture.

His is speed with a purpose. For he is sure that he will have pioneered a new age of water travel if only he can break through the water barrier — the invisible blockade met around 200 mph, which can mangle a craft into slivers of twisted steel. (It was this barrier which is believed to have caused John Cobb's tragic death.)

Still he is prepared to face the risk. But it is a calculated, not a cavalier risk. Every contingency will be allowed for. He has spent long, grim hours watching the film of John Cobb's boat exploding at 200 mph, hoping for some clue to what went wrong.

It is typical, too, of his canniness that with him everywhere goes the twisted propeller of another speedboat which broke up around him in October 1951. It is the ominous reminder which pulls him up short when he feels tempted to hurry over some apparently trivial detail.

But if Campbell has much of the canniness of his Scottish ancestors, he lacks the traditional dourness, except, perhaps, when complete absorption in his work blinds him to his surroundings.

Being with Donald Campbell is like walking through a hall of mirrors. The nearest glass reflects one man. Glance in another to meet a fresh profile. There is a third Campbell by your side, and a score more reflected in other glasses.

There is Campbell, the quiet and unassuming, the young man with the pride and determination of the perfectionist.

Campbell of the gossip columns. The practical joker. The guest who is always invited again. The man who can't help seeing the funny side of life.

Campbell, the gentle. The lover of children and animals who gives generously to everybody and everything. The cautious family man, scorning risks for danger's sake and finding his relaxation in sailing and cautious car driving.

SPECIAL FUEL

Donald Campbell is no wealthy playboy. Of the £100,000 his father left, he has about enough left to pay for the special fuel he will use on his present record attempt. The last one cost him £8,000. This one is costing £200 a week. And his speedboat, Bluebird, which Campbell thinks should reach 250 mph, cost £25,000 to build.

On land, Bluebird looks like the creation of a space-fiction artist. Settled in the greyness of Lake Ullswater in northern England, it is sleek and low-slung with its aluminium-skin floats and turbo-jet power unit tucked behind the cockpit.

It is the craft of a scientist rather than a speedster; the germ of a new form of propulsion which just in the end revolutionises sea going.

And it is the essence of Campbell that he would far rather be remembered as the man to do that—than as the man who just exceeded 200 mph, on water—and lived.

David Campbell

Fanling Spring Meeting A Great Success

A very successful Spring Meeting was held at Fanling on the 28th, 29th and 30th March. The weather remained perfect for the entire meeting and over seventy members were present at the prize-giving on Wednesday afternoon.

Mrs Goldman, the Captain, made a speech welcoming the members and congratulated the winners of the events during the season.

The Deep Water Bay Season starts with a competition on Tuesday, April 26.

Prizes were presented to the following:

October—Medal: Silver, Mrs Wai; Bronze, Mrs La Roche.
October 26—Stableford: Silver, Mrs Robinson; Bronze, Tie, Mrs Taplin and Mrs Sprunger.
November — Electric: First, Mrs Dawson-Grove; Second, Mrs Wai.
November 18—Shanghai, 4-Somes v Bogey: Mrs Goldman and Mrs Dawson-Grove.
November 30 — String: First, Mrs Brooks; Second, Mrs Dawson-Grove.
December/January—Holiday Bogey: Silver, Mrs Birtwhistle; Bronze, Mrs McCann.
January—Medal: Silver, Not enough cards returned; Bronze, Mrs Pearce.
January 18—Par Bisque Old Course: Mrs Hunter.
Chinese New Year—Medal: Silver, Mrs Smalley (already given, as left); Bronze—Mrs Orr.
February—Bogey: Silver, Mrs Wai; Bronze, Mrs Leitch.
February 15 — Shanghai, 4-Somes Stableford: Mrs McCann and Mrs Shoemaker.
February 22 — Medal: First, Miss Swallow; Second, Mrs Sprunger.
March 22 — Flag: First, Tie, Mrs Littlejohn and Mrs Sowden-Jones.

SPRING MEETING

Monday morning—Flag: First Silver, Mrs P. Watchinson; First Bronze, Mrs D. L. Anderson; Third, Mrs J. B. Mackie. Hidden Prize—Winner, Tie, Mrs A. Dawson-Grove and Mrs C. Hayes.
Monday afternoon—Foursomes OC v Bogey: Mrs F. Hunter and Mrs J. Hurden.
Tuesday morning — Stableford: Silver, Mrs Reeves; Bronze, Mrs Edgar.
Tuesday afternoon: Putting, Mrs Hurden; Approaching and Putting, Mrs Hayes; Long Driving, Mrs Wai.
Wednesday morning — Medal: Best Gross Silver, Mrs J. C. Brown; Best Nett Silver, Mrs Backe; Best Gross Bronze, Mrs Leitch; Best Nett Bronze, Mrs F. C. B. Black; Hidden Nine, Mrs Van Alst.
Wednesday morning—Relief Course: Mrs Frost. Winner, Miss Ayrton. Runner-up.

MAJOR CUPS FOR THE YEAR

L.G.U. Medal for 1954: Silver, Mrs Hayes with average 72 nett; Bronze, Mrs Shoemaker with average 70 nett.
Old Dragon's Cup best Gross on Old Course—Mrs Wai with 80.
Old Dragon's Prize best Gross on New Course—Mrs Gray with 85.
Foursomes: Winners, Mrs La Roche and Mrs Anderson; Runners Up, Mrs Leitch and Mrs Hunter.
Ross Cup: Winner, Mrs Hurden; Runner Up, Mrs Van Der Touw.
Railway Cup: Winner, Mrs Robinson; Runner Up, Mrs Wai.
Taggart Cup: Winner, Mrs Dawson-Grove; Runner Up, Mrs Wai.
Mitchell Plate: Winner, Mrs Hayes; Runner Up, Mrs Backe. Best Nett Qualifying Round, Mrs Goldman.
Captains Cup: Winner, Mrs Hurden; Runner Up, Mrs McCann.
Bronze Championship: Winner, Mrs Backe; Runner Up, Mrs Anderson; Best Gross in Qualifying Round, Mrs Hurden; Best Nett in Qualifying Round, Mrs Moodie.
Championship: Winner, Mrs Wai; Runner Up, Mrs Mackie; Best Nett 18 Holes, Mrs Armstrong; Best Nett Old Course, Mrs Cleland; Best Nett New Course, Mrs Hayes.

HOME RUGGER RESULTS

London, Mar. 30.

Tonight's Rugby results were:

RUGBY UNION

Bridgend 6 Neath 0.
Rugby 9 Northampton 12

RUGBY LEAGUE

Whitehaven 11 Salford 5.
Swinton 7 Wigan 7.
Bradford Northern 27 Dewsbury 3.—Reuter.

West Indies Forced To Follow On

Kingston, Mar. 30.

At the close of play on the fourth day of the First Test here, West Indies had scored 186 for three in their second innings.

They were all out for 259 in their first innings and were forced to follow on in reply to Australia's total of 515 for nine declared.

West Indies, who were 221 for five overnight, lost their remaining five wickets for 38 runs in just over an hour on the fourth day.

Clyde Walcott, mainstay of the West Indies batting, completed his century, which included 12 fours, in three hours 21 minutes, but was out soon afterwards for 108.

West Indies finished 256 runs behind the Australian total of 515 for nine wickets declared, and Johnston enforced the follow on.—Reuter.

Services To Play Chess Club In 10-Board Match

A close match is expected when the Combined Services play Kowloon Chess Club at the Peninsula Hotel on Tuesday (April 5).

The newly formed Services team has a nucleus of strong players who should cause the club quite a lot of trouble. Kowloon Chess Club champion J/T P. G. Challis, RAF, will be playing for the Services. On the opposite side will be Mr J. T. Carvalho, last year's Colony champion.

The match will be over 10 boards, but this number will be increased if the Services can raise more players by the weekend. Any member of the Services who would like to play should get in touch with Capt. P. A. Symmicks, WRAC, GSI, H.Q. Land Forces (Tel: Force 430) as soon as possible.

Bergmann Beaten By Jimmy Lowe

London, Mar. 30.

Richard Bergmann (England), four times World Table Tennis Champion, was beaten by a comparatively unknown player in the third round of the English Open Championships here today.

Bergmann, who was defending his title, was beaten 21-15, 21-11, 21-19 by 22-year-old Jimmy Lowe, whose only previous claim to fame was as holder of the English Junior Title in 1950.—Reuter.

Cohen-Towell Title Fight On Sept. 3

Paris, Mar. 30.

Robert Cohen of France will meet Willie Towell of South Africa for the World Bantamweight Boxing title in Johannesburg on Sept. 3 or 5 this year.

This was announced by Gaston-Charles Raymond, Cohen's manager, here tonight after a talk with Towell's manager, Reg Haswell.—France-Presse.

Manchester City Draw With Wednesday

London, Mar. 30.

Manchester City, the Football Association Cup finalists, rose to third position in the League Division One table by sharing four goals with Sheffield Wednesday, the bottom club, at Maine Road, Manchester, today.

They are five points behind Chelsea, the leaders, with two games in hand, and two points behind Wolverhampton with the same number of games played.

Wednesday's point does not ease their relegation worries. They have played one more match and are ten points behind Blackpool, who are twentieth.

Birmingham improved their prospects of promotion from Division Two with a win by three goals to two over Fulham. With three games in hand they are four points behind Blackburn, who are second from the top.

Maurice Cook, Watford outside-right, obtained four goals in 15 minutes in his side's victory by five goals to three over Millwall.

Others results were:

DIVISION II

B'ham C.	3	Fulham	2

DIV. III (SOUTHERN)

Reading	1	Bournemouth	0
Watford	5	Millwall	3

DIV. III (NORTHERN)

Bradford	0	Tranmere	0
Gateshead	0	Chester	0
Chesterfield	4	Mansfield T.	1
Crewe Alex.	2	Darlington	2
Hartlepools	2	Southport	1
Wrexham	1	Workington	1

SCOTTISH LEAGUE

Division "A"

Aberdeen	4	Kilmarnock	1
Clyde	2	Falkirk	0
Eastfife	3	Celtic	4

Division "B"

A'drieonians	4	St. Johnston	1
Queen's P.	0	D'fermline A.	1

—Reuter.

Newcastle United In FA Cup Final

Sunderland, Mar. 30.

Newcastle United reached the final of the Football Association Cup competition for the tenth time today when they beat gallant little third division club York City 2-0 in their semi-final replay here.

Newcastle, who since the war have twice won the cup, will meet Manchester City in the final at Wembley on May 7.

Sixty thousand people saw York live up to the fighting reputation they have gained in their great cup run. They were a goal down after two minutes and played through the second half with virtually only ten men. Their centre-half, Albert Stewart, received a bad head injury in the last minute after the interval.

Ronnie White, right winger, scored Newcastle's first goal in the third minute while Newcastle's centre-forward got the second in the last minute.—Reuter.

Motor Sports Club's Plans For Spring Rally

Preliminary details have now been sent to all Motor Sports Club members in connection with the forthcoming Spring Rally to be held on Sunday, April 3.

Competitors are instructed to foregather at 10.00 a.m. at Messrs Wallace Harper's Garage, Kowloon. Cars will be placed under starting orders and Route Cards issued at 10.15 a.m., with cars starting at set intervals from 10.30 a.m. onwards.

In keeping with Home-side rallying, the MSC's Spring Rally will be a whole-day affair and will include a number of tests, a regularity section and the like—in fact the whole event has been based upon regulations issued for a recent London Car Club's rally.

There will be a rendezvous for tiffin and special tests on the Mainland, after which competitors will cross to the Island where the Rally will continue until about 7.00 p.m., following a tea interval, further elimination tests, and a final check of competitors' cars.

Organisation this year is in the hands of Alistair Stewart and Doug Steane, and the Caltex Challenge Trophy awaits the fortunate winner. Subsidiary prizes are also being presented for individual performances.

It is hoped that a large percentage of Motor Sports Club Members—who now number 125—will turn out for this Rally, which ranks as one of the major events in the Club's annual calendar.

NEW SCORING SYSTEM FOR LAWN TENNIS

Cleveland, Mar. 31.

A new scoring system will be used when the annual Professional Indoor Lawn Tennis championships begin here today.

The scoring will be similar to that used in table tennis with 21 points constituting a set. Only one service will be allowed instead of the usual two and the service will change every five points.

All matches will be best of five sets.—Reuter.

THE GAMBOLS . . . by Barry Appleby

Whatever the subject CAPTURE IT WITH-

Charlie Buchan, A Critic On Wholetime Basis

By Archie Quick

Fleet Street is to lose a famous figure. Charles Buchan will announce his retirement at the end of the current football season although he will continue his work with the BBC.

Buchan, or Charlie as we all know him, is a legend in his lifetime. I first met him in 1918 when he was "guesting" at Fratton Park during World War I. I was both a cub-reporter and a junior (very) footballer, and I asked the great man, who had already played in a Cup Final and won an English International "cap" for his autograph.

Nobody could have been more kind, and I remember vividly that he told me that he intended taking up journalism when his active career ended and he also gave me a Soccer tip or two when we trained together one evening on the Fratton Park ground.

As his friend for thirty-seven years I have not seen this kindly man alter one whit, and he is still only too willing to give advice to the young newspaperman starting out on a sports career.

Charlie was the first of the footballers to become a critic on a whole time basis, and he was eminently fitted for the job, for not only did he bring to bear in his articles his great knowledge of the game, but also as a school teacher he was well equipped, educationally.

Yet I have often thought that if he had his time ever again he might well have become a professional golfer for his heart is very much in that game.

A scratch player and a County man for Middlesex he has also competed in the British Amateur Championship and the English Amater National Championship wit a modicum of success without winning a title. Although wll over sixty he still plays at Hindon and is still a single handicap player.

ARSENAL GOUND

Buchan was born at Plumstead within sight of the old Woolwich Arsenal ground, and when he turned prossional in May, 1910, his first club was the now defunct eyton, a Southern League ide. He went to Sunderland in March, 1911, and it was ther he became one of the famus right wing triangle of Cuggy Buchan and Mordue — probaly the greatest of all time.

It was the "Team ofall the Talents" and quite irrisistible, although a Cup victory eluded them. They reached th Final in 1913, the year Buchan got his first "cap", but were beten in a classic match by Astol Villa by on only goal scored by Tom Barber. It was Sunderland's peak season for not only did they reach the Cup Fnal but they won the League Championship.

Buchan's style did not find favour with the National Selectors, and that, combined with the war break, resulted in his gaining only five "caps" against home countries and two against Continentals. That did not worry the late Mr Herbert Chapman or affect his judgment and he bought Charlie in June 1925 to lay the foundation of Arsenal's fortunes. Buchan never played for England again, but it is unquestionable that he was the keystone upon which Arsenal's fame was built.

The great players who were bought by Chapman were obtained to fit round Buchan and what a company they were! His successors were David Jack and Alex James as the generals of the forward line, but it was Buchan and Buchan alone who made Arsenal what they are today (or was at yesterday?)

As well as his journalism Charlie is a world figure as a broadcaster, he owns a flourishing monthly magazine and has a sports outfitters shop. Guess where? Sunderland. So in his retirement there will be no financial worries. Only more time to attend to his beloved golf.

Umpire's Decisions Will Be Final

The following will represent the Bar and Solicitors against the Solicitor General's team from Government legal officers and the judiciary at 1.45 p.m. on Sunday, April 3, 1955 at the Kowloon Cricket Club, Cox's Road.

S. V. Gittins, O. V. Cheung, F. Zimmern, Kenneth Lo, L. J. D'Almada Remedios, D. D'Almada Remedios, John Arculli, R. Moore, G. Hampton, J. C. B. Slack, A. N. Other.

Umpire—C. E. Loseby, Q. C.

CAME NEAR TO THE COLONY RECORD

South China Athletic Association's Lin Cheung came near to clearing feet 11 inches for a new Colony record at the HKAAA Championships at Caroline Hill on Sunday. Here he clears 5 feet 9 inches. — China Mail Photo

SOCCER ON THE INSIDE

WHO WILL BE REFEREE FOR THE CUP FINAL AT WEMBLEY THIS YEAR?

Edited by Sam Leitch

Final choice as referee for this year's Cup Final rests between Alf Bond, one-armed Fulham newsagent, and Reg Leafe, Nottingham P. T. instructor.

As it is an all-Northern Final both men are eligible as both are due for soccer's top honour.

Bond refereed last year's Amateur Cup final and the 1 FA Cup semi-final between Birmingham and Blackpool.

If Bond gets the Wembley job on May 7 he will have completed a remarkable season.

He gave three penalties in the Chelsea-Red Banner game last December; on Christmas Day he stopped the Coventry-Southampton game to warn both teams; on Boxing Day he sent off a player from each team in the return match.

Later, Coventry asked for Bond to be switched from their third-round tie against Huddersfield. The FA agreed and sent him to Rotherham.

PLAYER-MANAGER

How long before 18-year-old George Eastham jun., son of the former England-side forward (same name), joins Arsenal? Young George is at present playing for Ards, in the Irish League, where his dad is player-manager.

* * *

The FA will note discussions by the Scottish FA and Scottish League on how to stop minor representative games from cluttering the League programme.

One proposal is that the Scotland-England "B", under 23, and youth international be reserved for late spring.

* * *

Gordon Westley, 17-year-old Hednesford United defender signed by Bury, as "another Duncan Edwards," is a left back no longer. Says manager Davies Russell: "He's six feet tall and so powerfully built that I think he will make a better centre half. I'm grooming him for the job in our Manchester League team."

* * *

Chesterfield's "we'll sell any-one" circular has flopped. Says manager Teddy Davison: "I've not had an offer." Why were the playing-staff put up for sale? "Shortage of cash," says Davison.

BIGGEST OFFER

Fulham have received and rejected the biggest offer yet for their England centre-forward Bedford Jezzard, but how much longer can they keep turning down bids for Jezzard, Johnny Haynes, and Bobby Robson?

Chairman Charles Dean says: "We can't go on at this rate.

Last week we had a beautiful afternoon, a promotion-fighting match against Rotherham—yet only 18,000 fans. We're in the red this season and losing money, despite living rent free."

Fulham debts include £18,000 owing to Mr Dean, who owns the ground and rents it to the club at a nominal £5 a year.

* * *

Selling typewriters—or playing football again—that's the choice before Billy Walsh, recently sacked player-manager of Grimsby.

Billy, father of four, must quit his Grimsby house by April 24.

He is considering taking a job as a representative of a typewriting firm; moving to Halifax Town to join old friend Willie Watson, or playing as a part-timer with Mansfield.

Sports Diary

TODAY

Soccer

Div I: Eastern v RAF (Club); Police v Army (B.S.).
Div IIA: Eastern v SCAA (C.H.); Taikoo v KMB (Navy).
All games at 6 p.m.

Meetings

Annual Meeting KBGC at Austin Road 5.30 p.m.
Annual Meeting Ladies' Recreation Club 5.30 p.m.

TOMORROW

Golf

Smalley Cup Final.

Hockey

Div I: Recreio A v Army A at Recreio 5.15 p.m.

SATURDAY

Soccer

Div 1: Eastern v South China (CH); Sing Tao v RAF (Club); CAA v Navy (Navy). All matches at 5 p.m.
Div 2 'A': South China v KMB (CH); Western v Club (Club); Kitchee v Kwong Wah (Navy); RAF v Taikoo (BS); St Joseph's v Eastern (Skp). All matches at 3.30 p.m. Police v CAA (BS); Army v Gymnastic (Skp). Both matches at 5 p.m.
Div 2 'B': Dairy Farm v Prisons; Solicitors v Little Sai Wan; Dockyard v REME. All matches Happy Valley 3.30 p.m. Jardines v Telephone; CMB v Tramways; C & W v RAMC. All matches at Happy Valley 5 p.m.

Athletics

Combined Services v Combined Civilians at Kai Tak.

Hockey

Ladies' International: Holland v Scotland (HV) 4 p.m.

Cricket

Friendly: HK Regiment v Hongkong Cricket Club.

Malaya Names Team To Defend Thomas Cup

Singapore, Mar. 30.

The Badminton Association of Malaya today named seven players for the defence of the Thomas Cup on June 4 and 5.

Included is Eddie Choong, a Malayan law student who is still in London. Eddie, who was beaten last Saturday by Wong Peng-soon in the All-England championships in London, is going to the United States to participate in the American Open Championships before returning to Malaya to help defend the Thomas Cup.

Others in the team are Wong Peng-soon, Ooi Teik Hock, Ong Poh Lim, Lim Kee Fong, Tan Jin Tong and Lee Hoo Chye.—United Press.

Chinese YMCA Win Mixed Doubles Title

The Chinese YMCA, led by the Colony's number one singles player and Thomas Cup representative, Ramon Young, fought back from a 3-0 first round deficit, to topple the Craigengower Cricket Club by five matches to four, and clinch the Senior Mixed Doubles badminton title at the Indian Recreation Club last night.

THE SCORES

Bill Funk and Helen Kwong (CCC) beat Ramon Young and Miss C. Ho (CYMCA) 24-22; lost to Patrick Wong and Miss D. Lam 14-21; lost to W. F. Foo and U Khoo 18-21.

Robert Tay and Mrs Elvie Tsok (CCC) beat W. F. Foo and Miss U. Khoo (CYMCA) 21-15; lost to Ramon Young and Miss Ho 10-21; beat Patrick Wong and Miss Lam 21-11.

K. C. Wong and Miss Stella Correa (CCC) beat Patrick Wong and Miss Lam 21-14; lost to Foo and Miss Khoo 10-21; lost to Ramon Young and Miss Ho 8-21.

Ken Armstrong In England Team

London, Mar. 30.

Len Phillips, the Portsmouth right half, has withdrawn from the England football team to meet Scotland at Wembley on Saturday.

Phillips injured a knee in a trial match yesterday. His place will be taken by Ken Armstrong, of Chelsea, whose first full cap this will be.

Armstrong captained England "B" against Germany, Scotland and Yugoslavia "B" teams last season.—China Mail Special.

ROYAL H.K. DEFENCE FORCE ORDERS

Serial No. 13. Orders By Lieutenant Colonel O. F. Newton Dunn, Commandant Royal Hongkong Defence Force. Dated March 29, 1955.

FORCE ORDERS

Holidays.—Headquarters RHKDF will be closed from Friday to Monday, April 8 to 11, 1954.

FORCE HEADQUARTERS

Int Platoon—Tuesday April 5, 1955. HQ RHKDF 5.30 p.m. Dress: Plain clothes.

Recce Platoon.—Thursday April 7, 1955. Lecture. Parade MPG 5.30 p.m. Dress: Mufti. Warning Order. There will be a week end scheme from 7 p.m. Friday April 15, 1955 to 4 p.m. Sunday April 17, 1955 in the Sai Kung Area.

Artillery Battery—Field Troop Advanced Class. TARA III Class—No parade. Signallers. Monday April 4 1955. 5.30 p.m. Signals Hut MPG. Plain clothes. C & E Troop —Monday April 4, 1955. Parade MPG 5.15 p.m. for SOC. Dress: Mufti.

THE HONGKONG REGIMENT

Training. — "A" Coy — Tuesday April 5, 1955. Range details as notified to personnel concerned. Dress: No. 3. Eqpt No. 3. "B" Coy —Monday April 4, 1955. Range as notified to ranks concerned. S.C.P. Kowloon 6 p.m. Dress: No. 3 Eqpt No. 3. "C" Coy—Tuesday April 5, 1955. Drill, 88 Sec. Wireless Inter Com. Map Reading. RV MPG for RHQ 5.15 p.m. Dress: No. 3. Eqpt No. 1. Warning Order Monday April 11, 1955—LMG & Rifle Classification Kai Tak. "D" Coy—Wednesday April 6, 1955. Drill, Adm and Kit Check. RV MPG for RHQ 5.15 p.m. Dress: No. 3. (All O.G. incl hosetops and flashes to be brough on parade). Trg Pl—Monday April 4, 1955. Foot and Arms Drill, LMG Revision. RV MPG for RHQ 5.15 p.m. Dress: No. 3. Eqpt No. 2. Sp Coy MMG Pl & Mor Pl—Wednesday April 6, 1955. Dragon Trophy. Foot & Arms Drill. MMG (MG Pl) Trg. Mor (Mor Pl) Trg. RV MPG for RHQ 1.50 p.m. Dress: No. 3. Eqpt No. 1. HQ Coy Sig Pl—Wednesday April 6, 1955. A & B Section—W/less Exercise. RV MPG at 3.30 p.m. Dress: No. 3 (with shoes). Warning order. Wednesday April 13, 1955—Rehearsal for Queen's Birthday Parade. Men detailed only. MT Pl—Wednesday April 6, 1955. Maint & Lecture and W.T. RV MPG for RHQ 5.15 p.m. Dress: No. 3. Friday April 8, 1955. MT & MG Cadre. RV 5.30 p.m. at RHQ. Dress: No. 3. Int Sec—Wednesday April 6, 1955. Map Reading & Bearings. RV MPG for RHQ 5.15 p.m. Dress: Civilian clothes. Cooks—Thursday April 7, 1955. Practice Cooking at Lyemun Bks. RV MPG for Lyemun Bks. 1.30 p.m. Dress: No. 3. Met Sec—Wednesday April 6, 1955. Lecture by MO. RV MPG for RHQ 5.30 p.m. Dress: Civilian clothes. Band & Corps of Drums Monday April 4, 1955. Band — Classical Rehearsal Drums—(Def Pl) Fdcraft. Lecture. RV 11 a.m. at RHQ. Dress: No. 1 White Web Belt. Gaiters. Tuesday April 5, 1955—Def Pl and detailed Band Personel. Fdcraft. Personal Camouflage. DF Posns. Fd of Fire. RV RHQ 9 a.m. for Wong Nei Chong Gap.—Dress: No. 3. Eqpt No. 3. Wednesday April 6, 1955—No parade. Thursday April 7, 1955—Band and detailed personnel of Drums. Classical rehearsal. RV RHQ 9 a.m. Dress: No. 4. Friday April 7, 1955—No Parade. Monday April 11, 1955—Band and detailed drums personnel. H.K. Jockey Club Engagement. RV 9 a.m. at RHQ. Dress: White No. 3 Jacket. Blue No. 3 Trousers. Blue Peak Cap. White Web Belt. Black Shoes and Black Socks.

HOME GUARD

Training.—Thursday April 7, 1955. Sten Carbine Training. Parade MPG 5.20 p.m. Dress: Overalls, Belt, Khaki Beret, Black Boots.

HONGKONG AUXILIARY AIR FORCE

Queen's Birthday Parade.—The Queen's Birthday Parade will take place a.m. on April 21, 1955. HKAAF personnel to take part in the march-past will be notified personally, and will also be informed of rehearsal dates.

Easter Break.—Flying will take place at Kai Tak on Friday April 8, 1955 and Saturday April 9, 1955. The Flying Squadron will stand down on Sunday and Monday April 10 & 11, 1955. All Aircrew and Groundcrew to note.

Trade Training. — G.C.I. Teams Radar Operators & Fighter Controllers Friday April 1, 1955—Radar Operators—S.O.C.—5.30 p.m. Fighter Controllers Courses 2 & 3. Lecture room Murray Parade Ground at 5.30 p.m. Tuesday April 5, 1955—Fighter Controllers Course 2 & 3. Lecture room Murray Parade Ground at 5.30 p.m. Fighter Plotters Tuesday April 5, 1955—"A" Watch—S.O.C.—9 a.m. (Half Day). Tuesday April 5, 1955—"B" Watch—S.O.C.—5.30 p.m. Thursday April 7, 1955—"A" & "B" Watches—S.O.C.—6.30 p.m. Nursing Orderlies Wednesday April 6, 1955—Windsor House—Flt/Lt. S.S. Ramier—6.30 p.m. Wireless Operators. Elementary Friday April 1, 1955—As detailed—Murray Barracks—5.30 p.m. Tuesday April 5, 1955—As detailed—Murray Barracks—5.30 p.m. Friday April 8, 1955—As detailed—Murray Barracks—5.30 p.m. Wireless Operators Advanced Tuesday March 29, 1955—As detailed—Murray Barracks—5.30 p.m. Clerks G.D. Tuesday April 5, 1955—HKAAF Hangar—6 p.m. Transport leaves Salisbury Road at 5.45 p.m. Equipment Assistants Saturday April 2, 1955—HKAAF Hangar—Group 3—3 p.m. Transport leaves Salisbury Road at 1.45 p.m. Sunday April 3, 1955—HKAAF Hangar—Group 1—9 a.m. Transport leaves Salisbury Road at 8.45 a.m. Tuesday April 5, 1955—HKAAF Hangar—All personnel—6 p.m. Transport leaves Salisbury Road at 5.45 p.m. A.T.C. Friday April 1, 1955—All personnel—Area Control— 9 p.m. Saturday April 2, 1955—As detailed—Kai Tak Tower—12 noon (Full Day). Sunday April 3, 1955—As detailed—Kai Tak Tower—9 a.m.—3 p.m. (Full Day) and 12 noon—6 p.m. (Full Day). Friday April 8, 1955—All personnel—HKAAF Hangar—6 p.m. Clerks P.A. Tuesday April 5, 1955—HQ RHKDF—5.30 p.m. Transport leaves Murray Parade Ground at 5.15 p.m. Tuesday April 19, 1955—HQ RHKDF—5.30 p.m. Transport leaves Murray Parade Ground at 5.15 p.m.—Armourers Police Tuesday April 5, 1955—HQ No. 34 R.A.F. Police District—5.45 p.m. Transport leaves Murray Parade Ground at 5.30 p.m. Groundcrew Thursday March 31, 1955—HKAAF Hangar—6 p.m. Transport leaves Salisbury Road at 5.45 p.m. Saturday April 2, 1955—"A" Flight—HKAAF Hangar 2 p.m. Transport leaves Salisbury Road at 1.45 p.m. Sunday April 3, 1955—"B" Flight—HKAAF Hangar—9 a.m. Transport leaves Salisbury Road at 8.45 a.m.

Flying Programme. — Thursday March 31, 1955—All Pilots—HQ RHKDF—5.45 p.m. Transport leaves Murray Parade Ground at 5.30 p.m. Saturday April 2, 1955—"A" Flight—HKAAF Hangar—2 p.m. Transport leaves Salisbury Road at 1.45 p.m. Sunday April 3, 1955—"B" Flight—HKAAF Hangar—9 a.m. Transport leaves Salisbury Road at 8.45 a.m.

HONGKONG WOMEN'S AUXILIARY ARMY CORPS

Training.—Monday April 4, 1955—Signals "B": All personnel parade 5.15 p.m. MPG for HQLF. Dress: Uniform. Tuesday April 5, 1955—Signals "A": Personnel as detailed 5.15 p.m. MPG for HQLF. Dress: Uniform. Wednesday April 6, 1955—All personnel parade 5.15 p.m. MPF for HQ RHKDF. Dress: Uniform. Thursday April 7, 1955—All personnel parade 5.15 p.m. MPG for HQ RHKDF. Dress: Civilian clothes.

(Sgd) G. H. Calvin,
Major, for Commandant,
RHKDF.

After Order. — Summer Dress — Warning Order With effect from April 1, 1955 All Ranks of RHKDF are under 48 hours' notice for the change from Winter to Summer dress.

NOTICES

POs' & Sgts' Mess Shoot.—The RHKDF POs' & Sgts' Mess Shoot for the Duncan McCallum Memorial Cup and Rail Trophy will take place at the Peak Range on Sunday, April 3, 1955 at 10 a.m. Will members wishing to complete please submit their names to W.O.(II) E.A. Ball by Thursday March 31, 1955.

Boxing Tournament.—The HKAABA are starting the Colony Open Boxing Championships at the latter end of April 55. It is hoped that the Hongkong Regiment can produce a team that will complete in these Championships.

Anyone interested in taking part, please contact us soon as possible Sgt. M. L.—Heatley at RHQ Happy Valley, Hongkong.

St. John Ambulance Orders

Order by Dr F. I. Tseung, C.St.J., Deputy Commissioner-in-Charge of St John Ambulance Brigade, Hongkong District, Order No. 13/55, Dated March 31, 1955.

Ambulance Duties — Hongkong.—3.4.55.-9.4.55. Western Dist. Amb. Div.: 10.4.55.-16.4.55. Kennedy Town Amb. Div.; April 1955: King's College Nsg. Div.

Ambulance Duties — Kowloon.—4.4.55.-10.4.55. Shamshuipo Amb. Div.: 11.4.55.-17.4.55. Kowloon Amb. Div.; April 1955: KYMCA Nsg. Div.

Penetration Squad Duties.—3.4.55. Dr Kelly Chu, Dentist H.F. Shields, C/S Z. el Arculli & Central Nsg. Div.; 10.4.55. Easter Holiday. Cancel duty.

Orderly Duties For Mainland Area Hqts. — 1.4.55. Shamshuipo Amb. Div.: 2.4.55. Tsimshatsui Amb. Div.: 3.4.55. KYMCA Amb. Div.: 4.4.55. KYMCA Nsg. Div.: 5.4.55. Kong Wah Amb. Div.: 6.4.55. Kong Wah Amb. Div.; 7.4.55. Kowloon Amb. Div.

Race Duties. — 9.4.55. At Race Course, Eastern Amb. Div.: At Headquarters, Wanchai "B" Amb. Div.: 11.4.55. At Race Course, Wanchai "B" Amb. Div.: At Headquarters, Eastern Amb. Div.; 23.4.55. At Race Course, Kennedy Town Amb. Div.; At Headquarters, Chung Sing Amb. Div.

Football Duties.—2.4.55. 3.15 p.m., Boundary St. Ground: Kong Wah Amb. Div.; 2.4.55. 3.30 p.m., SCAA Ground: SCAA Amb. Div.; 2.4.55. 3.30 p.m., Club Ground: Western Dist. Amb. Div.; 3.4.55. 4.30 p.m., Club Ground: Confucian Amb. Div.; 5.4.55. 8 p.m., Club Ground: Shaukiwan K.F. Amb. Div.; 5.4.55. 8 p.m., SCAA Ground: SCAA Amb Div.; 6.4.55. 6 p.m., SCAA Ground: SCAA Amb. Div.; 7.4.55. 6 p.m., Club Ground: HKYMCA Amb. Div.

Street Sleepers Shelter Society Duties—Shamshuipo. — 1.4.55.-2.4.55. KYMCA Nsg. Div.: 4.4.55.-9.4.55. Shamshuipo Nsg. Div.

Street Sleepers Shelter Society Duties—Western Dist. — April 1955: Shaukiwan K.F. Nsg. Div.

Mong Kok K.F.W.A. Assn. Clinic Duties. — 1.4.55.-2.4.55. KYMCA Nsg. Div.; 4.4.55.-5.4.55. Waterloo Nsg. Div.: 6.4.55.-7.4.55. Shamshuipo Nsg. Div.

Appointment. — Shamshuipo Amb. Div.: Pte Tang Hung-bor appointed to be Hon. Sgt. & Div. Sec. w.e.f. 23.3.55.

Taken On Strength.—(a) Enrolment—Wanchai "A" Amb. Div.: Pte Wu Kwai-sing enrolled w.e.f. 24.3.55.

Decrease Of Strength.—(a) Transfer—D/S.O. III (Admin.) Mrs G. L. Hollingdale transferred to U.K. w.e.f. 1.4.55. (b) Leave—SCAA Nsg. Div.: Div/Surg. Dr Hilda T. K. Chan leave for 4 months w.e.f. 14.3.55.

(Sgd.) The Lord Cave, S.B.St.J.
Staff Officer I,
District Headquarters.

Nominate YOUR

Hongkong Footballer Of The Year

Members of the public are invited to nominate whom they cusider to be Hongkong's Footballer of the Year or the current season.

It is a popularity pll organised by the China Mail, and nomination copons will be received until the closing date to be announced later.

The two qualificatios for nomination are:

(1) Footballing prowess.
(2) Sportsmanship o the field of play.

Nominations should beaddressed to The Editor, China Mail, Wyndham Stree, Hongkong.

To The Editor, China Mai

My nomination for Hogkong's Footballer of the Year, taking into regai his playing ability and his sportsmanship onthe field of play is

.....

of the ..... Club.

(Signed).....

STROK, TILLETT & HOLT, LTD.
and
HARRY ODELL
proudly present
the world famous harmonicist
LARRY ADLER

at the
EMPIRE THEATRE
Friday, Saturday, Sunday — 15, 16, 17 April at 9.30 p.m.
Admission:— $12.80, $8.90, $4.70
Booking now at MOUTRIES and EMPIRE THEATRE.
PROGRAMMES:—

Friday, 15th April, 1955.

Concerto in A minor	VIVALDI
Allegro — largo — allegro	
Vocalise	RACHMANINOFF
Piece en forme de Habanera	RAVEL
Siete Canciones Populares	FALLA
— INTERVAL —	
Fille aux cheveux de lin	DEBUSSY
Pastorale	POULENC
Fandango Brasiliero	BERGER
Prelude	GERSHWIN
Rhapsody in Blue	GERSHWIN

Saturday, 16th April, 1955

Bist du bei mir	BACH
Gavotte	BACH
Praeludium (from the 6th Violin Partita)	BACH
Concerto in C minor	CIMAROSA-BENJAMIN
Introduzione — Allegro — Siciliana — Allegro gosto	
Suite for Harmonica and Piano	LAVRY
Procession — Pastorale — Hora (composed by Larry Adler)	
Nigun (from Baal Shem Suite)	BLOCH
— INTERVAL —	
Chanson de la jeune fille	STRAVINSKY-DUSHKIN
Roumanian Dances	BARTOK
It Ain't Necessarily So	GERSHWIN-HEIFITZ
Carmen Fantasy	BIZET-ADLER

Sunday, 17th April, 1955

Concerto in A minor	BACH
Dido's Lament	PURCELL
Greensleeves	VAUGHAN WILLIAMS
Fandanguillo	TORROBA
Apres lui reve	FAURE-CASALS
Fandango Brasileiro (composed by Larry Adler)	BERGER
L'Apres midi d'un faun	DEBUSSY-HEIFITZ
— INTERVAL —	
La fille aux cheveux de lin	DEBUSSY-HARTMANN
Hora Staccato	DINICU-HEIFITZ
Suite from the film "Genevieve"	ADLER
Prelude	GERSHWIN
Roumanian Rhapsody	ENESCO-ADLER

CHINA MAIL
HONGKONG
PUBLISHED DAILY (AFTERNOONS)
Price, 20 cents per copy, Saturdays 30 cents,
Subscription: $6.00 per month.
Postage: China and Macao $3.00 per month, U.K. British Possessions and other countries $7.00 per month.
News contributions, always welcome, should be addressed to the Editor, business communications and advertisements to the Secretary.
Telephone: 26811 (5 Lines).
KOWLOON OFFICE:
Salisbury Road.
Telephone: 52431.

Classified Advertisements

20 WORDS $4.00 for 1 DAY PREPAID
ADDITIONAL INSERTIONS $2.00 PER DAY
10 cents PER WORD OVER 20

Births, Deaths, Marriages, Personal $5.00 per insertion not exceeding 25 words, 25 cents each additional word.

ALTERNATE INSERTIONS 10% EXTRA

If not prepaid a booking fee of 50 cents is charged.

WANTED KNOWN

DR. SCHOLL'S Foot Comfort Service, Telephone House (Mezzanine) Hongkong provides the expert attention your feet deserve — by London-qualified Chiropodist.

PREMISES TO LET

MacDONNELL ROAD 42A new flats, 1st or 2nd floor, 3 bedrooms, living/dinning room, 2 bathrooms, kitchen, servants-quarters, separate toilet, light and power fittings, gas pipe to kitchen and bathrooms. No key money. Apply Mr Chuck, 62 French Bank Bldg. Tel. 25623 office hours.

MUSICAL

NEW LPS Dmitry Kabalevsky Taras' Family, by Marinsky Theatre Artists, Tschaikowsky Second Piano Concerto by Tatiana Nikolayeva, Stalin Gold Medalist, Five Centuries of Choral Music, Brandenburg Concertos, Bouquet of Vivaldi Concerti, Bloch Israel Symphony from D. Esses, 4A, Des Voeux Road, room 1, 2nd floor, telephone 30166.

FOR SALE

THE "POST" TYPHOON MAP incorporating amendments to the Local and Non-Local Storm Signal Codes. Mounted $5.00. Unmounted $4.00. Obtainable from "S. C. M. Post."

TYPHOON TABLES giving bearing-distance and time-distance for Typhoons likely to affect Hong Kong. A useful adjunct to the "Post" Typhoon Map. Price $2 mounted, from South China Morning Post Ltd., Hong Kong and Kowloon.

STAMPS

STAMP ALBUMS — "Collection Builder" series. New stock now available, $5. From South China Morning Post, Ltd., Wyndham Street, Hongkong and Salisbury Road, Kowloon.

SOMETHING EXCLUSIVE, Collectors packets of assorted stamps. From 20 cents per packet upwards. An entirely new series. South China Morning Post Ltd., Wyndham Street, Hongkong and Salisbury Road, Kowloon.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES

Consignees per
Cie des Messageries Maritimes
s/s "VIET-NAM".

are hereby notified that their cargo will be discharged into the Hong Kong & Kowloon Wharf & Godown Co., Ltd.'s godown where it will be at consignees' risk and subject to the wharf's terms and conditions of storage, and where delivery may be obtained.

Damaged packages are to be left in the godown for examination by consignees' and the company's surveyors, Messrs Goddard & Douglas at 10 a.m. on Saturday, 2nd April, 1955.

No Claims will be admitted after the goods have left the godown and all goods remaining undelivered after the 4th April, 1955 will be subject to rent.

All claims against the vessel must be presented to the undersigned on or before the 27th April, 1955 or they may not be recognised.

No Fire Insurance will be effected.

CIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES

Hong Kong, 30th March, 1955.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES

s.s. "TAIPING"
Arrived 28th March, 1955

Damaged cargo ex this vessel will be surveyed by Messrs. Goddard & Douglas at Hong Kong & Kowloon Wharf Godown at 10.00 a.m. on Friday 1st April and Saturday, 2nd April, 1955, and consignees representatives are requested to be present during survey.

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
Agents,
Australian-Oriental Line Ltd.
The China Navigation Co. Ltd.

WATER IS PRECIOUS USE IT WISELY

NOTICE

Notice to Shareholders

THE HONGKONG AND YAUMATI FERRY COMPANY LIMITED.

Notice is hereby given that the Twenty-Seventh Ordinary Annual Meeting of the Company will be held at the Company's Office, Jordan Road Ferry Pier, Kowloon, on Saturday the 2nd April, 1955, at 12.00 noon for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Directors and Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31st December, 1954, to declare Dividends, to elect Directors and to appoint Auditors.

Notice is also given that the Share Register of the Company will be closed from the 21st March, to the 2nd April, 1955, both days inclusive.

By Order of the Board,
LAU TAK PO,
Managing Director.

Hongkong, 3rd March, 1955.

NOTICE

THE HONGKONG AND YAUMATI FERRY COMPANY LIMITED.

Notice to Shareholders

Extraordinary General Meeting

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an Extraordinary General Meeting of The Hongkong & Yaumati Ferry Company, Limited, will be held at the Company's Offices, Jordan Road Ferry Pier, Kowloon on Saturday the 2nd Day of April, 1955, at 12.30 p.m. (or as soon thereafter as the Ordinary Annual Meeting to be held at Noon on that date shall have concluded) for the purpose of considering, and if thought fit, passing the following Resolution as an Ordinary Resolution:—

"That it is desirable to capitalise the sum of $1,680,000.00 being part of the undivided profits of the Company standing at the credit of the Company's Reserve Fund and accordingly that a special Capital Bonus of $1,680,000.00 be declared and that such bonus be applied on behalf of the persons who on the 2nd day of April, 1955, were the holders of the 336,000 issued shares of the Company in payment in full for 168,000 unissued ordinary shares credited as fully paid be accordingly allotted to such persons in the proportion of one such ordinary share for every two of the said 336,000 issued shares then held by such persons respectively, and that the shares so allotted shall be treated for all purposes as an increase of the nominal amount of the Capital of the Company held by each such shareholder and not as income, and that such shares shall rank for dividend from the 1st January, 1955, and that no fractional certificates shall be issued but that shares representing fractions shall be allotted to a trustee to be nominated by the Directors upon trust for sale on such conditions as they consider expedient, and the net proceeds of sale shall be distributed proportionately amongst those members who would otherwise be entitled to such fractions and in satisfaction thereof."

By Order of the Board,
LAU TAK PO,
Managing Director.

Hongkong, 3rd March, 1955.

To ADVERTISERS

SUNDAY POST-HERALD Space for commercial advertising should be booked not later than noon on Wednesdays.

For the SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST and the CHINA MAIL, 48 hours before date of publication.

Special Announcements and Classified Advertisements as usual.

Iraq Cann Stand Alone

— General Nuri

Bagdad, Mar. 30.

The Iraqi Premier, General Nuri al Said, announced Britain's decision to join the Iraqi-Turkish defence pact at a joint session of both Houses of Parliament today shortly before Sir Anthony Eden announced it in the British House of Commons.

He said the special agreement with Britain was designed mainly to guard Iraq against foreign aggression, principally atomic raids.

"Iraq cannot defend herself alone even if we could build a strong air force," the Premier said. "Not even Britain could stand alone and this is why she gave facilities and air buses to the United States Air Force."

Britain's new agreement with Iraq was initialled at the Foreign Office here before noon today by the British Ambassador, Sir Michael Wright, and the Iraqi acting Foreign Minister, Burhanuddin Bashayan. After the signing Sir Michael called on General Nuri and the Turkish and French Ambassadors.—Reuter.

Enclave Units Increased

New Delhi, Mar. 30.

Mr Jawarharlal Nehru, the Indian Prime Minister, told Parliament today that he was aware of a considerable increase in the garrisons of the Portuguese settlements in India and also of the construction of aerodromes but he did not regard them as any threat to India.

Mr Nehru who was replying to a question in India's Council of States said "the Government of India are, however, alive to the problem and will take appropriate measures in the defence of India's interests."—Reuter.

Nasser Attends Ceremony At Shallufa Barracks

Prime Minister Gamal Abdel Nasser, members of the Revolution Command Council and Cabinet Ministers attended the morning ceremony of hoisting the Egyptian flag on the Shallufa Barracks, the first British Army establishment in the Suez Zone to be transferred to the Egyptian Army. The ceremony was followed by a military parade in which representative units of the Armed Forces took part. The ceremony would have taken place one week earlier but the platform erected for the occasion was blown away by a sandstorm. Picture shows: Premier Gamal Nasser laying the foundation stone of the new Mosque at the Barracks.—Express Photo.

Ma Notes

The latest ti... shown below ar... registered corres... at G.P.O. Hongk... posting times elsew... in general, are e... which, G.P.O. times can... by enquiry at the... ascertained. The latest posti... registered articles ... one hour earlier th... shown below. Particu... ing parcel mails can ... ed by enquiry at any ... office.

... of posting ... for un- ... nce posted ... The latest ... than the ... office. ... times for ... generally ... e times ... regard- ... certain- ... office.

THURSDAY, MAR... 1
By Air
Philippines, N. Borneo, ... m.
By Surface
Macao, 6 p.m.

FRIDAY, APRIL ...
By Air
Hawaii, U.S.A., 8 a.m.
Thailand, Burma, India, ...
Egypt, Switzerland, France ...
Britain, 8 a.m.
Formosa, Japan, Korea, 10 ...
Philippines, 11 a.m.
Indo-China, Noon.
Japan, U.S.A., Canada, 5 p...
Formosa, 6 p.m.

Syria And Egypt Hold Talks

Cairo, Mar. 30.

Syria and Egypt tonight opened preliminary talks on the projected defence pact between their countries and Saudi Arabia. The talks are expected to last four days.—Reuter.

WEST WILL BACK HERR RAAB

London, Mar. 30.

The Big Three Western Powers will reinforce the negotiating position of the Austrian Chancellor, Herr Julius Raab by issuing a joint statement on the Austrian question on the eve of Raab's departure for Moscow, informed sources said tonight.

The Austrian Chancellor will leave on April 11 for Moscow to confer with the Premier, Mr Nikolai Bulganin and the Foreign Minister, Mr Vyacheslav Molotov, on the long-delayed conclusion of an Austrian State Treaty.

The American-British-French statement will also constitute a point of departure for Big-Four talks which may take place later this year on the Austrian and German problems, these sources said.—France-Presse.

CYPRIOT GIRLS FAVOUR UNION THROUGH SOCCER POOLS

Nicosia, Mar. 30.

Many Cypriot girls are relying on British Football pools to win the dowry which will make them "marriageable." For, by tradition, a dowry is essential—and the bigger the dowry, the more eligible the bachelor they can hope for.

Ever since two Cypriot villagers won prizes of over £1,500 each in the British football pools in January, girls have been flocking to the pools' agents in Cyprus every week, and filling in forms.

A win at the pools means for most of them the chance of quicker access to matrimony.

Over the last few months, the number of Cypriots "doing pools" is estimated to have soared to between 75,000 and 100,000. About one in every five islanders is thus a regular client of British football pool companies, many of which have their agents here.

It all began four years ago, when Cypriots discovered that it was possible for them to airmail their forms and investments direct to Britain.

Now it is spreading like wildfire throughout the island. Recently, the Postmaster General here had to cable to London urgently for a supply of Postal Orders. Demand for them has increased five-fold since pools began to become so phenomenally popular.

Three years ago, an estimated £10,000 a year was put into pools by Cypriots. In the middle of January, this figure was calculated to have gone up to £30,000. Now postal authorities estimate that at the present rate £50,000 worth of Postal Orders a year are being used by Cypriots doing British football pools.

ALL WALKS

Cypriot pools fans come from all walks of life; newspapermen, housewives, mechanics, policemen, politicians, masons and messengers.

Villagers ask their friends to fill in pools forms for them at random. Others obtain the agents' advice. Some investors put as much as 25s a week into pools. Hardly any of them have ever heard of British football teams.

The island's only communist newspaper, the Neos Demokratis, publishes British football results every Sunday.

British newspapers which are flown here three times a week and sell at sixpence each, have doubled their circulation within a few months. Pool forecasts, forms, suggestion, tips and postmortems are studied by islanders with the care and concentration of financiers scanning stock exchange prices.

Cyprus allows no gambling. There are strict regulations against games of chance, and no public sweepstakes are permitted.

There is a race club enjoying concessions for horse racing, and although during each race, a sweepstake is drawn, this is considered entirely private.

Any newspaper publishing the winning numbers of the previous day's sweepstakes at the races runs the risk of prosecution.

The establishment of a casino on the island by way of a tourist attraction, mooted on several occasions by the Tourist department, has repeatedly been turned down by the Colonial Office.

Some years ago, when a British football pools firm tried to get a Cyprus agency established, Government authorities were approached for an unofficial opinion whether British football pools were a legal form of betting in Cyprus.

The only answer which the authorities could then give was that they were not at all sure whether it was not illegal. There might have to be a test case, they said, to establish whether British pools could be considered as a game of intelligence or guesswork, as far as Cyriots were concerned, or whether they were to be construed as a game of chance—and therefore banned.

The British firm did not wish to risk such action and the matter was dropped. Now, pools agents have taken the line that this form of betting could not possibly be considered illegal, and in a short time, have expanded their activities on a large scale.

SOME CONCERN

The Government is understood, however, to be looking upon this mounting investment in pools with some concern. One official line of thought has been that this will prove a passing craze and that the chances of winning a big prize must be so remote that Cypriots will sooner or later be discouraged.

Meanwhile, football pools are enjoying a field day. They are easily more popular than any measure which the Government or the politicians have ever introduced into the island. Cyprus is in the sterling area, and there are no exchange difficulties in the way of the despatch of Postal Orders or cheques in support of this mild form of betting.

Ideas have often been put forward to start a Cyprus football pools system based on local matches. But this, the islanders fear, might be banned as illegal.

Now that British football pools have won such wide popularity in Cyprus, the authorities may well find it very difficult to persuade the public or the pools companies in Britain, that the participation of Cypriots in this institution is illegal after all.—China Mail Special.

MANDRAKE THE MAGICIAN

By Lee Falk and Phil Davis

FERD'NAND

By Mik

NANCY

By Ernie Bushmiller

JOHNNY HAZARD

By Frank Robbins

Oppose Return Of Islands

Manila, Mar. 31.

House majority leaders pledged support today to a bipartisan resolution expressing the sentiment of the House of Representatives against returning Okinawa and the Bonin Islands to Japan.

Proponents of the resolution contended that the return of the two islands territories to Japan would disturb the military and political equilibrium in the Pacific.

The resolution was filed last night following Japanese Premier Ichiro Hatoyama's announcement that he would start negotiations for the return to this country of the two islands bases.—United Press.

TRADE and COMMERCE SECTION

COTTON DELEGATES ANXIOUS

Manchester, Mar. 30.

Increasingly anxious about Japanese competition in world cotton markets, European representatives of the cotton industry were in Manchester today again trying to have the question put down for international discussion.

Working on an agenda for the July conference at Ostend of the International Federation of Cotton and Allied Industries on July 4, Continental cotton leaders are having two days of informal talks.

Herr Willy Kiehler, manager of the German Cotton Spinners Association, and his country's representative at the talks, said Germany is faced with the same sort of Japanese problem that is causing concern in all other European countries.

The question has become so serious that it would be discussed next month by the Textile Committee of the Organisation for European Economic Co-operation.

A French proposal for European countries to decide on some sort of concerted action against the threat of Japanese competition is also to be discussed.

M. Pierre de Calan, Vice-President of the French cotton industry organisation, said: "What with Iron and Bamboo Curtains and increasing industrialisation of many countries which used to rely on imported goods, it is becoming more and more difficult for us all. In the circumstances cotton men in Western European countries should co-operate to solve their common problems instead of fighting each other."

French delegates are pressing for agreements against dumping and other forms of unfair competition.—China Mail Special.

MYSTERIES OF EXTINCT ANIMALS

Capetown, Mar. 30.

Important facts about types of animals which are now extinct in South Africa are being unravelled systematically at the University of Capetown.

Renewed interest in palaeontology has been created by the setting aside at the Medical School of a large building as a laboratory and museum for the special study of the vast quantity of fossilised animal remains found at the "Saldanha Man" site near Hopefield about 60 miles north of Capetown.

A detailed survey of all material relating to an extinct South African type of giant bush pig has already been made by Dr R. Singer and Dr E.N. Keen, senior lecturers in anatomy.

They found that the creature was closely related to a wild pig which lived in East Africa 200,000 years ago. No older remains of a pig have been found anywhere in Africa.

Their next research will deal with extinct types of elephant, buffalo and giraffe, also found at Hopefield.

Apart from many types of animals now extinct, the Hopefield site has provided material representing a cross-section of all living antelopes, as well as types, such as the Lechwe, now extinct in the Cape.

FOUR TYPES

The fossils include at least four different types of extinct horses and zebras. More teeth of an extinct, short-necked giraffe with antlered horns, have come from Hopefield than the total remains of such a creature found anywhere else in Africa.

Huge quantities of bones of giant rhinos and buffalo, all bigger than modern species, are also among the collection.

Hundreds of stone implements from Hopefield are awaiting examination.

Professor M.R. Drennan of Capetown University said that what appeared to be a limitless quantity of material still remained at the site in the sand dunes 10 miles south-west of Hopefield. Large-scale operations were hampered by lack of funds and transport difficulties.—China Mail Special.

Yalta Documents Bad Precedent

London, Mar. 30.

The British Foreign Minister, Sir Anthony Eden, said today in the House of Commons that United States publication of the Yalta documents did not constitute a very good precedent for the British release of their wartime papers, particularly those concerning the arrival in England of the German escapee, Rudolph Hesse.

He declared that this question could not be examined until after the publication of certain prewar papers was completed.—France-Presse.

COTTON AND WOOL CONSUMPTION

Significant Increase Since The War

RAYON FIGURES RISE

Geneva, Mar. 30.

The General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade reported yesterday that world consumption of raw cotton, rayon and raw wool "increased significantly" since prewar.

In a paper prepared by the GATT intelligence unit it was pointed out that there are substantial differences in the way in which the 1952-53 drop in total fibre consumption reflected itself.

This "textile crisis" is "nothing more than the perfectly plausible result of market responses," said GATT.

"In 1951 there was a halt in the extraordinary increase in textiles, followed in 1952 by a severe slump," the trade expert said.

"In 1953 there was a recovery in world textile markets."

In the year 1938, 14 per cent of world output of cotton goods was exported. The six major countries, Belgium, France, Italy, United Kingdom, United States and Japan produced about 49 per cent of the total and their exports were 71 per cent of the world cotton trade."

SAME AS 1939.

"In 1953 the six countries still produced the same proportion as in 1939 but their exports had fallen to 58 per cent," GATT said.

These "two countries with 15 per cent of world production now have exports representing 13 per cent of the world total."

The trade experts said: "Owing to faster growth in population the proportion of textiles available per head hardly varied in the importing areas. Whereas in the exporting countries it rose by nearly one fifth."

The increase in "world cotton production in 1953 has taken place entirely outside West Europe and Japan."

Latin American production of cotton textiles in the post-war years "has genuinely replaced more than 60 per cent of cotton textile imports."

The United States, India and the rest of the world "production rose by 36 per cent."

CHANGE IN PRICE

The change in export price of cotton yarn and cotton tissues by the major suppliers to non-industrial destination is particularly pronounced because the textile production in the less industrialised region on the whole diminished their demand for yarns."

The trade experts concluded: "The prospects for an increased volume of international trade in textile machinery appears to be favourable for the same reason that trade in textiles and textile raw materials may continue to decline."—United Press.

NEW YORK STOCK MARKET

Last Minute Sell-Off

New York, Mar. 30.

A l[illegible]t minute selling drive whack[illegible] more than $1,000,000,00[illegible] from market valuation t[illegible]y with individual losses [illegible]nging to 10 points at the [illegible]treme.

Until [illegible] sell-off the market was one-[illegible] wide-moving specialties and [illegible]arrow-moving stocks in the [illegible] body of the list. Many of[illegible] features reflected individua[illegible]ws developments.

Bath [illegible] Works lost 10 points of [illegible]terday's 11¼ rise as the N[illegible] denied the company is b[illegible] considered for a nuclear de[illegible] contract. In the same gr[illegible] Newport News Shipbuildin[illegible]d General Dynamics los[illegible]e than 3 points.

The last m[illegible]e's selling, which put reporti[illegible] tickers behind five minute[illegible] brought in all groups. Ind[illegible]ials sank $3.60 on average, [illegible]ils 2.14 and utilities 0.47. [illegible] stepped turnover up to 3,[illegible]00 shares from 2,770,000 ye[illegible]day—the most since March 1[illegible]

TEC[illegible]AL

The selling [illegible] viewed in Wall Street as [illegible]ical, coming at a time wh[illegible]rices were approaching th[illegible]bull market highs. Most co[illegible]tators look for further ba[illegible]and filling before the list [illegible] a serious assault on the ta[illegible] early this month.

There were su[illegible] losers in rails. Seaboard [illegible] Line, Atlantic Coast Line, [illegible]is Central and Southern [illegible]y lost 2 points or more.

Among the s[illegible]pots was Parke Davis, one [illegible] firms working on the [illegible] vaccine, spurted 2 points [illegible]vourable news regarding s[illegible] of new tests.

Of a total 1,196 [illegible] traded only 258 finished [illegible] while 712 were lower.

The New York St[illegible]k Exchange bond volu[illegible]s $3,100,000.

The American [illegible] Exchange volume w[illegible]40,000 shares.

Dow-Jones closin[illegible] averages were as follows:—

30-industrials	410.13
20 rails	149.22
15 utilities	63.33
65 stocks	[illegible]52.84
40 bonds	[illegible]
Comm. future price index	[illegible]34.92
Alden Inc. Acy.	20⅝
Allied Chemicals	97
Allis Chalmers	77½
American Airline	26⅛
American Metal	[illegible]
American Smelting	[illegible]
American Tel & Tel	[illegible]
American Tobacco "B"	[illegible]
Anaconda Copper	[illegible]
Armco Steel	[illegible]
Armour	[illegible]
Balwin-Lima-Hamilton	[illegible]
Baltimore & Ohio	[illegible]
Bendix Aviation Corp.	[illegible]
Benguet Cons.	[illegible]
Bethlehem Steel	[illegible]
Boeing Airplane	[illegible]
Canadian Pacific Railway	[illegible]
Case (J. I.) Co.	[illegible]
Chase National Bank	[illegible]
Chile Copper	[illegible]
Chrysler Motors	[illegible]
Commercial Credit	[illegible]
Commonwealth Elec.	[illegible]
Consolidated Edison	[illegible]
Continental Steel	[illegible]
Corn Products	[illegible]
Crane Co.	[illegible]
Cuban American Sugar	[illegible]
Curtis Wright	[illegible]
Dupont de Nemours	[illegible]
Eastman Kodak	[illegible]
General Electric	[illegible]
General Foods	[illegible]
General Motors	[illegible]
Gillette Safety Razor	[illegible]
Goodrich (B. F.) Co.	[illegible]
Goodyear Tire & Rubber	[illegible]
Homstake Mining Co.	[illegible]
International Business Machines	[illegible]
International Harvester	[illegible]
International Nickel	[illegible]
International Paper	[illegible]
International Tel & Tel	[illegible]
John-Manville Co.	[illegible]
Kennecott Copper	[illegible]
Lockheed Aircraft	[illegible]
Leows Incorp.	[illegible]
Lone Star Cement Co.	[illegible]
Minnesota Mining	[illegible]
Montgomery Ward	[illegible]
National Cash Register "A"	[illegible]
National Distillery	[illegible]
National Lead	[illegible]
New York Central	[illegible]
Otis Elevators	[illegible]
Pacific Gas & Electric	[illegible]
Pacific Western Oil	[illegible]
Pan American Airways	[illegible]
Paramount Pictures	[illegible]
Philips Petroleum	[illegible]
Pittsburgh Plate Glass	[illegible]
Radio Corporation	[illegible]
Reo Motors	[illegible]
Republic Steel	[illegible]
Shell Oil Co.	[illegible]
Sinclair Oil	53½
Socony Vacuum	53½
Southern Railway (Com.)	[illegible]
Standard Brands	[illegible]
Standard Oil of California	78¾
Standard Oil of Indiana	44⅞
Standard Oil of New Jersey	112
Stokley-Van Camp	17¾
Studebaker-Packard Corp.	12½
Swift & Co.	47½
Texas Co.	94¼
Union Carbide	85¾
Union Pacific Railway	157
United Gas, Imp.	75¾
U.S. Gypsum	237
U.S. Line Co.	21¼
U.S. Rubber	43¾
United States Smelting	54¼
U.S. Steel	78⅛
Warner Bros.	18½
Westinghouse Electric	76½
Woolworth	49½

—United Press.

World Cotton Markets

New York, Mar. 30.

Cotton futures today back-tracked sharply for the second session in a row.

Losses ranging up to around $1.40 a bale drove nearby old crop deliveries to the lowest level in a month, with May contracts going below the 33¼-cent mark.

Day trader covering at the close lifted prices from the lows out of the list still closed unchanged to off 18 points. Opening prices were off 2 to 5 points. New Orleans closed off 3 to 17 points.

The surplus was figured at 10,200,000 bales, up 600,000 bales from last year and 300,000 bales more than indicated last December.

The slow-down in export demand for raw cotton, as foreign consumers wait for a clarification of the US Government policy on export subsidies for next year, along with business in the textile markets, kept the trade buying to scale down limits.

Trading volumes and open interests in the Exchange today were:

Month	Volume	Open interest
May	46,900	767,000
July	35,600	854,800
October	12,200	301,300
December	11,200	253,900
March	3,500	139,600
May	2,600	145,700
July	5,700	20,800
Total (bales)	117,700	2,493,100

NEW YORK

Prices of futures closed today as follows:

Spot	34.05a
May	33.29
July	33.58
Oct.	33.87-88
Dec.	33.97
Mar.	33.99
May	34.14
July	33.89

NEW ORLEANS

Prices of futures closed today as follows:

Spot	33.75
May	33.28
July	33.56-58
Oct.	33.87
Dec.	33.98-34.00
Mar.	34.14
May	34.13
July	33.87

SAO PAULO

Futures closings, in cruzeiros [illegible]er kilo were as follows:

[illegible]ay	27.00
[illegible]y	27.00
[illegible]t.	29.00
[illegible]	29.40
[illegible]	30.50

[illegible]n the United States, the [illegible]rage price of 15/16 middling [illegible]on at ten designated spot [illegible]kets was 33.51 cents. Sales [illegible]hese centres totalled 10,417 [illegible]s.

KARACHI

[illegible] raw cotton market re[illegible]ed from Monday's slump [illegible]tter foreign business. The [illegible]able export parity at[illegible]d, much of the business [illegible] in the past week, and [illegible] were large shipments [illegible] by shippers. It was [illegible] reported that the freight [illegible] will be increased from [illegible] 10 per cent upward to [illegible] and the United States. [illegible] Japan, the freight rates [illegible] raised from 45 to 50 [illegible] from the first of April. [illegible]osed today in rupees per [illegible] as follows:

[illegible]b roller-ginned	62
[illegible]ind roller-ginned	67
[illegible] saw-ginned	71-4
Punjab roller-ginned	69-4
[illegible] saw-ginned	73

[illegible]verpool cotton prices [illegible] received this morning. [illegible] Press.

World Rubber Markets

Singapore, Mar. 30.

The rubber market steadied during the day on general political situation but eased towards the close on selling pressure with buyers reluctant. Future closings:

No. 1 rubber per lb.	
April	90¼-90¾
May	89¼-89¾
June	unquoted
No. 2 rubber per lb. April	89¼-89½
No. 3 rubber per lb. April	88¼-88¾
No. 4 rubber per lb. April	87¾-88¼
Spot rubber unbaled	90¼-90¾
Blanket crepe	82-83
No. 1 pale crepe	95½-96¼

NEW YORK

Futures today closed 25 to 60 points lower with sales of 136 contracts.

Commission house liquidation at the close, encouraged partly by stock market setback, and because of the discouragingly slow consumer interest in actual rubber, dominated a mixed trade. Switching of Sept/May contracts at 75 points difference provided another feature.

In the spot market, small sales included June one sheets at 31⅜ cents in the forenoon. Later, sales were made at 31⅛ cents and 31 cents, although the low price was not confirmed. July one sheets traded from 31¼ to 31⅛ cents a pound. Spot No 1 Rss were quoted at 31¾ cents a pound, nominal. Futures:

May	31.70
July	31.15-20
Sept.	30.75
Dec.	30.40-50
Mar.	30.10
May	29.70

The London and Amsterdam rubber prices were not received this morning.—United Press.

London Foreign Exchange

London, Mar. 30.

New York	2.79-5/16-2.79⅜
Montreal	2.74-9/16-2.74-11/16
Brussels	73.97¼-73.97¾
Paris	977¼-973
West Marks	11.80⅛-11.80¼
Zurich	12.28⅛-12.28¼

Others were unchanged.—United Press.

NEW YORK METAL PRICES

New York, Mar. 30.

Prices of metal futures closed today in cents per lb. as follows:

Lead	April	14.17b
	May	14.21b
Tin	April	90.25b
	May	90.15b
Zinc	April	10.43a
	May	10.48
Copper	April	40.10b
	May	39.75b

—United Press.

LONDON METAL PRICES

London, Mar. 30.

All metal markets were steady. Prices closed today in sterling per long ton as follows:

		buyers	sellers
Tin	spot	714½	715
	3-month	715½	716
Copper	spot	365	365½
	3-month	357½	358
Lead	2nd half Mar.	103¾	104½
	2nd half June	103¼	103½
Zinc	2nd half Mar.	88¼	88½
	2nd half June	87	87¼

—United Press.

New York Sugar Market

New York, Mar. 30.

World No. 4 sugar futures closed 3 points lower to 1 point higher with sales of 213 contracts.

Domestic No. 6 sugar futures closed unchanged to 4 points lower with sales of 321 contracts.

World futures were irregular on mixed trade operations. No raw sales were reported, but dealers heard rumours that "some business had been done with Ceylon."

Other sources understood not all countries have been adhering to export quotas under the international sugar agreement. This was expected to pose a problem for the sugar Council at its next meeting. Brazil and Mexico were among the countries reportedly oversold on quotas.

A good part of the business in domestic contracts was represented in exchanges for spot sugar. Futures:

Contract No. 4 (world)

May	3.30
July	3.22
Sept.	3.32
Mar.	3.30
May	3.31
July	3.31
Spot (cents per lb. fob Cuba)	3.32

Contract No. 6

May	5.40
July	5.51
Sept.	5.52
Nov.	5.52
Mar.	5.43
May	5.47
Spot (cents per lb. dr. NY ex-duty)	5.45

—United Press.

Malaya Rubber Committee

London, Mar. 30.

Mr Stan Awbery (Labour) asked in the House of Commons today if negotiations begun two years ago on the setting up of a consultative or negotiating committee for the rubber industry in Malaya had yet been completed.

He urged the Colonial Office to ensure that the committee would deal on a national scale with the wages and conditions in this industry.

Mr Henry Hopkinson, Minister of State for Colonial Affairs, replied: "I am glad to say that the long and patient negotiations between the two sides of the planting industries in the Federation of Malaya have now resulted in agreement on the constitution of a joint consultative committee for these industries.

"The agreement which provides for joint consultation on wages, conditions of work and other matters was signed on March 26."—China Mail Special.

HONGKONG STOCK EXCHANGE

(From Our Correspondent)

Business done on the Hongkong Stock Exchange this morning amounted to $344.536.80. Noon quotations and the morning's transactions:

SHARES	BUYERS	SELLERS	SALES
BANKS			
HK Bank	1520	1545	20 @ 1530
INSURANCES			
Union	970		
SHIPPING			
Asia Asia		73c.	
DOCKS, ETC.			
K. Wharf	68		
Dock XD	24½	24.80	200 @ 24.60 500 @ 24.70
Provident (O) X.ALL		11.90	500 @ 11.80
Wheelock	7.10	7.20	
LAND, ETC.			
HK Hotel	16.90	17.10	5000 @ 16.90
HK Land	64½	65	116 @ 64½
S'hai Land		86c.	400 @ 86c.
Humphreys		24.30	1000 @ 24
Realty	1.97½	2.02½	
UTILITIES			
Tram XD	20.40	20.70	
Star Ferry			
Y'mati Ferry X.ALL		114	
C. Light (O)	17.80	18	50 @ 18 1000 @ 17.80 800 @ 17.90
C. Light (N)		14.30	200 @ 14.20 300 @ 14.30 500 @ 14.22 200 @ 14.20
Electric	34½	35½	700 @ 35
Telephone	30¾	31½	700 @ 31
INDUSTRIALS			
Cement X.ALL	26.40	26.70	500 @ 26.60
Rope		17.70	
STORES, ETC.			
Dairy	21.60	21.90	300 @ 21.70 288 @ 21.70
" (N)			147 @ 20.10 175 @ 20.20
Watson	13.10		
L. Crawford	24.80		
Kwong Sang Hong			12 @ 154
COTTONS			
Textile Corp		6	
Nanyang		8.60	
MISCELLANEOUS			
Yangtsze	6.15	6.25	18 @ 6 1000 @ 6.20
Allied	4.77½	4.87½	1000 @ 4.80 750 @ 4.85

Singapore Stock Market

Singapore, Mar. 31.

Brokers today quoted the following stock prices:

	Opening 31.
British Borneo Petroleum Syndicate	31/-
Consolidated Tin Smelters, Ordinary	30/6d
Fraser & Neave Ltd., Ordinary issue	$1.97
Fraser & Neave Ltd. 7½% cum. pref	$6.60
Hongkong & Shanghai Bank Corp. (Colonial Register)	$825
Malayan Breweries	$3.95
Raffles Hotel	$2.72
Singapore Cold Storage	$1.82
South British Insurance	$28.25
Straits Trading	$26.75
Straits Steamship	$16.00
United Engineers Ordinary issue	$11.50
Waerns Brothers	$2.80
Hongkong Tin	8/3d
Petaling Tin	$3.95*

* with div.

—China Mail Special.

New York Foreign Exchange

New York, Mar. 30.

Canada	$1.01-25/32
England unofficial	2.68-2.70
Belgium	.0199

Canadian dollar rate:

		buyers	sellers
Spot	close	1.01⅝	1.01-13/16
	high	1.01¾	1.01-13/16
	low	1.01¾	1.01-13/16
Future	30-day	1.01-25/32	1.01-14/16
	90-day	1.01-25/32	1.01-15/16
	6-month	1.01-25/32	1.01-14/16

—United Press.

New Revolutionary Yarn Process

Ottawa, Mar. 30.

The revolutionary process of making yarn discovered by Army and Defence Research Board scientists will be made available to the textile industry soon, the Defence Minister, Mr Ralph Campney, told the Commons yesterday.

The new process, an advanced technique in spinning yarn, makes use of the greater tensile strength of synthetic fibres in combination with the qualities of natural fibres. The yarn can be woven into a light, strong cloth that won't tear and can be used in clothing, canvas, upholstery coverings and many other materials.

Mr Campney said the armed forces of the United States and the United Kingdom are very interested. "The new yarn," he said, "is now undergoing rigorous tests in the United States, and the United Kingdom has asked us for considerable yardage."

PATENTS FILED

Patents on the invention, filed in the name of the Queen, have been registered in the United States and Europe, he said. All royalties will accrue to the Crown, but the inventors, Col H. A. Decellier, and Dr Jan Weinberger, will get a percentage, as yet undetermined, Mr Campney added.

The new yarn could be used in socks and shirts that would wear for years, bed sheets that would be almost indestructible and upholstery that would outlast the furniture it covers.—United Press.

Aust. Import Restrictions Worry Malaya

Signapore, Mar. 30.

Malayan rubber circles have expressed concern over the announcement of import restrictions by Australia which, they believe, may have an adverse effect on Malaya's rubber exports to that country.

In 1954, Australia was Malaya's seventh best customer for rubber, taking 42,628 tons.

These same circles believe that the Australian decision to cut her raw material imports by one-fifth as from April 1 may include Malaya's prime strategic commodity.

UNHEALTHY

They consider that such a situation would be an unhealthy development for Malaya especially in view of the fact that the United States is showing increasing preference for synthetic rubber.

These circles recall a similar position which arose in 1952 when Australia's import restrictions combined with her decision to end stockpiling, slashed rubber imports into that country down to 17,396 tons compared with 49,208 tons in 1951.

Consequently, in 1952, Malaya suffered an adverse balance of M$15,046,916 in her trade with Australia.—France-Presse.

Exchange Rates

Business was done in the local unofficial exchange market this morning at the following rates:—

U.S. dollar (per $1)	5.78
Sterling notes (per £1)	15.60
Indonesian rupiah (per 100)	13.50
Siam ticals (per 100)	27.60
Singapore (Straits)	1.80
Indo-China piastres (per 100)	9.05

EVERETT LINES

EVERETT ORIENT LINE

Fast regular freight — refrigerator — passenger service to Korea, Japan, Philippines, Indo-China, Siam, Malaya, Rangoon, Calcutta and Chittagong.

"BRADEVERETT"
Arrives Apr. 5 from Manila.
Sails Apr. 6 for Singapore, Penang, Rangoon, Chittagong & Calcutta.

"REBEVERETT"
Arrives Apr. 22 from Singapore.
Sails Apr. 22 for Kobe & Yokohama.

(Accepting cargo for transhipment Kobe/Pusan and Kobe/Okinawa)

EVERETT STAR LINE

Fast regular freight — refrigerator service to Japan, Malaya, Colombo, Bombay, Karachi and Persian Gulf.
(Subject to inducement for direct call Korea)

"THAI"
Arrives Apr. 16 from Singapore.
Sails Apr. 16 for Kobe & Yokohama.

"STAR ARCTURUS"
Arrives Apr. 19 from Japan.
Sails Apr. 20 for Singapore, Port Swettenham, Colombo, Bombay, Karachi, Khorramshahr, Basrah, Kuwait & Bahrein.

(LIMITED PASSENGER ACCOMMODATION)
(Accepting cargo for transhipment Kobe/Pusan and Kobe/Okinawa)

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FAST PASSENGER/FREIGHT SERVICE
"VIETNAM" sailing Apr. 9th
"CAMBODGE" sailing May 20th

FAST FREIGHT SERVICE
"MEINAM" sailing Apr. 21st
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CHINA MAIL

Page 10 THURSDAY, MARCH 31, 1955.

TRADE INTERVIEW
NEVER MISSED
SHEAFFER'S
CLICKER
MEDIUM & FINE
BALLPOINTS AVAILABLE

Londoner On Serious Charges

Charles Joseph O'Neill, 32-year-old teacher of London, residing at 502 Hoover Apartment, appeared before Mr J. E. Durling at Central this morning charged with three counts of demanding money with menaces.

Committal proceedings against the defendant on these three charges will start on April 28 and continue on April 29, April 30, May 2 and May 7 starting at 10.30 a.m.

On December 21, 1954, defendant is alleged to have uttered a letter demanding $1,000 from George Thomas Palmer with menaces. He is also alleged to have demanded $1,000 from Palmer with menaces by letter on December 27, 1954.

On December 28, 1954, he is alleged to have uttered a letter demanding $2,500 from Rudolph Victor Lederhofer with menaces.

Bail was fixed at $2,000, half in cash and half in surety, and defendant was also ordered to surrender his passport.

Defendant asked the Court to inform him whether the $1,000 in the first and second charge was the same sum or different sums.

Detective Inspector J. S. Howarth, DDP Central, told the Court that the two charges related to the same sum.

Three People Injured By Burglar

A burglar attacked three people in a house in Gascoigne Road with a dagger early this morning seriously injuring one and slightly wounding two others.

One of the victims, Li Wang-ming, is in a serious condition in Kowloon Hospital with stab wounds in the back and neck. His wife, Lam Yuk-kee and her sister, Lam Yuk-ping, have also been detained in hospital.

The burglar broke into the ground floor of No. 2 Gascoigne Road at about 3 a.m. and stole two wrist watches and $116.

The master of the house, Li, woke up and with his wife and sister-in-law tried to catch him. He turned on them with a dagger.

They chased him into Gascoigne Road where he was arrested by a policeman who was passing by.

Four Days To Pay

Two unemployed men with no address in Hongkong, went into the Sing Ngai Restaurant, Laichikok Road, last night, ordered a plate of preserved meat, a small bottle of Chinese wine and a bottle of beer. After consuming the meal, they confessed to the manager they had no money. They were then arrested.

The two men, Ho Yin-piu, 25, and Tung Wing-ming, 20, came before Mr T. Creedon at Kowloon this morning charged with obtaining credit by fraud.

They told the Magistrate that they could compensate the restaurant if the Court would allow them ten days to raise the money. The meal was worth $6.60.

Mr Creedon granted them permission until Monday.

JAP WARSHIPS VISIT MANILA

Manila, Mar. 31.

The first Japanese warships to visit Manila since the war arrived yesterday on an unofficial call.

Two frigates, both flying the Japanese flag, brought crew members for two small coastal vessels which the United States will be turning over to Japan here today.

To avoid any anti-Japanese demonstration that the presence of Japanese sailors might provoke, the Japanese Government decided not to grant them shore leave.—France-Presse.

CARONIA DUE TOMORROW

The Cunard White Star luxury liner, Caronia (34,183 tons) in the course of her world cruise, is scheduled to dock at Kowloon Wharf at 8 a.m. tomorrow, instead of 11 a.m. as previously reported.

COLONY'S ROUSING FAREWELL TO MR R. B. BLACK

The Hon. R. B. Black, Hongkong's retiring Colonial Secretary and Singapore's future Governor, was given a rousing send-off by hundreds of Government officials and prominent citizens when he left the New Queen's Pier in the Lady Maurine to emplane for United Kingdom on home leave this morning.

At 11.40 a.m., Mr Black arrived at the pier and was met by Mr A. C. Maxwell, Commissioner of Police. He then inspected a smart Police Guard of Honour, under the command of Mr George Leys, Police Superintendent, while the Hongkong Police Band played under the direction of Mr W. B. Foster, Bandmaster.

He then approached the pier, bidding farewell to his friends.

At exactly noon, he boarded the Lady Maurine, accompanied by the ADC to the Governor, Mr M. C. Illingworth, the Hon. B. C. K. Hawkins (Secretary for Chinese Affairs), and Mrs Hawkins, and Mr R. J. C. Howes (acting Colonial Secretary) and Mrs Howes.

As the Lady Maurine pulled out, Mr Black stood at the bow, waving to his well-wishers.

THOSE PRESENT

Among those present were the Hon. the Attorney-General (Mr Arthur Ribchalgh, QC), the Hon. the Secretary for Chinese Affairs (Mr B. C. K. Hawkins), the Hon. the Financial Secretary (Mr A. G. Clarke), the Hon. T. L. Bowring (Director of Public Works), the Hon. D. J. S. Crozier (Director of Education), Dr the Hon. K. C. Yeo (Director of Medical and Health Services), the Hon. H. H. G. Richards (Director of Urban Services) and Mrs Yeo, the Hon. Sir Man-kam Lo and Lady Lo, the Hon. J. A. Blackwood, the Hon. John Keswick, the Hon. T. N. Chau, Dr the Hon. S. N. Chau, the Hon. C. E. M. Terry, the Hon. D. J. Ruttonjee and Mrs Ruttonjee, the Hon. C. Blaker, the Hon. Kwok Chan and Mrs Chan, Dr the Hon. A. M. Rodrigues, Commodore A. H. Thorold (Commodore-in-charge, Hongkong), Air Commodore R. C. Field (Air Officer Commanding), Col J. A. Dawson (Chief of Staff), Miss Elma Kelly, Canon and Mrs A. P. Rose, the Rev. J. H. Ogilvie, the Rev. T. F. Ryan, Mr John McNeill, QC, Mr L. G. Morgan, Mr Paul K. C. Tsui, Mr Arthur Hooton, QC, Mr W. A. Blair-Kerr, Mr Maurice Heenan, Mr and Mrs Desmond Mayne, Mr Hin-shing Lo, Mr and Mrs L. B. Stone, Mr Boey Kok-keng, Mr Christopher d'Almada, Mr Daniel Chen, Dr and Mrs Arthur Woo, Mr Osmund Skinner, Prof. and Mrs Gordon King, Mr D. Benson, Mr W. Anurin Jones, Mrs J. H. Ruttonjee, Miss Ruttonjee, Lt-Col O. F. Newton-Dunn, Mr James Jolly, Mr K. A. Bidmead, Mr T. O. T'so, Mr E. C. Van Helden, Col J. D. Clague, Mr and Mrs Lawrence Kadoorie, Mr Horace Kadoorie, Mr Jack Cater, Mr E. F. Drumright, Mr P. C. Woo, Mr and Mrs Fung Ping-fan, Viscount J. A. Soreac de Buzon, Mr H. W. E. Heath, Mr R. V. F. Turner, Dr Tang Shui-kin, Mrs Mafalda Ng, Mr and Mrs S. E. Faber, Mr R. Y. Frost, Mr D. R. Holmes, Mr J. T. Wakefield, Mr Hui Ngok, Mr Ko Cheuk-hung, Mr F. T. Melwani, Mr Hili Pei-kwok, Mr Lee Man-kee, Mr Wong Ping-ying, Mr Fung King-chung and many others.

Mr Black was met at the airport by Mr M. Muspratt-Williams.

He left Kai Tak at 1 p.m. by Argonaut aircraft for the United Kingdom via Bangkok.

Axe Murder Attempt Fails: Wife In Court

London, Mar. 31.

Mrs Ann Hargreaves stood outside the bathroom door of her Birkenhead, Lancashire, home with an axe in her hand, waiting for her husband to step out.

As he did, she brought it down on his head. But at the last moment, the metal axehead flew off and Mr Hargreaves received only minor injuries.

This was the story told to the Liverpool Assizes today.

The 37-year-old wife, the court was told, had made these admissions to the police after her arrest and had, in both verbal and written statements said she wanted to kill her husband but unfortunately the axe broke.

She was alleged to have added that she would try it again the first chance she got. But later she retracted the statements.

The jury found her guilty of wounding but without intent to kill and she was released on probation for two years.—France-Presse.

On Charge Of Conspiracy To Defraud

Joe Francis Gervar, alias W. F. Chiu, alias Jean Frantz Ang How, 39, salesman, residing at 11 Old Bailey Street, second floor, and from Mauritius, was granted bail of $10,000 on a charge of conspiracy to defraud and cheat by Mr Hin-shing Lo at Central this morning.

Defendant, who was represented by Mr W. F. Ko (Lau, Chan and Co), was remanded for seven days.

Defendant is alleged to have on divers dates between December 24, 1954 and January 22, 1955, conspired together with Mirchumal Hotwani, alias Mitchell, an Indian not in custody, by divers false pretences and indirect means to defraud and cheat Messrs J. Kundan and Company of 20 Hollywood Road, first floor, of their monies by representing that 16 cases contained garments to the value of $58,524 whereas in fact the cases contained Rock salt to the value of $361.80.

Fined $350 For Careless Driving

While driving down Canton Road yesterday, Chan Wing-san, 33, of 238, Laichikok Road, first floor, glanced at a passing funeral procession. Without knowing it, he knocked down a seven-year-old boy injuring his arm.

He drove on until he was stopped by a traffic policeman.

Before Mr T. Creedon at Kowloon this morning, Chan was charged with careless driving and failing to stop after the accident. He admitted the first count but denied the second.

The Prosecution accepted his plea. It was stated that the defendant had told Police he did not realise he had knocked the boy down.

For the charge of careless driving he was fined $350 and his licence was endorsed. He was also ordered to pay $160 compensation to the boy.

Radio Hongkong

H.K.T.

6 p.m. Time Signal and Programme Summary; 6.05, Jazz Half Hour presented by Robert Acheson (Studio); 6.30, Portuguese Half Hour (Studio); 7, The Cincinnati Summer Opera Orchestra; 7.30, "Songs from the Shows"—The Palace" with Jack Buchanan, Helen Clare, Rita Williams, Jimmy Young, Mervyn Saunders, Billy Terrent and his Concert Orch. Presented by John Watt (BBC-TS); 7.58, Weather Report & Time Signal; World, News (London Relay); 8.02, Commentary (London Relay); 8.05, Special Announcements; 8.15, Modern Moods—Peter Manning at the Piano (Studio); 8.30, "Quality Party" A panel of experts solve a problem set by Edward J. Mason, Part 3 — "A Case of Diamonds" (BBC-TS); 9, Time Signal, Sports Review (Studio); 9.15, At the Opera—"Luisa Fernanda" (F.M. Torroba). Sung by the Principals and Chorus of the Mass Coral de Madrid, under the direction of Ritual Benedito. "Margalida" (F.M. Campra). Soprano: Consuelo Badia; Madrigal: Dolores Marinello and Pepita Vidal. "La Zarzuela" Agrupacion Lirica, cond. by the composer, Federico Moreno Torroba; (by agreement Interlude; 10.10, Vienna Radio Symphony Orchestra; 10.30, "One Night Stand — Gene Krupa and his Dance Band (with Vocal); 10.55, Weather Report; 11, Time Signal, Radio News Reel (London Relay); 11.10, Close-down Music, God Save The Queen; 11.15, Close Down.

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SIDE GLANCES By Galbraith

Copr. 1954 by NEA Service, Inc. T. M. Reg. U. S. Pat. Off. 2-22

"I wouldn't want your job if an atom bomb fell—with all that mess to clean up!"

An Event In A Crowded Lifetime

A 'Little Miracle' In Wyndham Street

Almost ten years ago, a former Royal Engineer p.o.w. of the Japanese walked out of the Argyle Street internment camp and the grim past of the occupation years to begin two tasks — one self-appointed and the other Government-appointed.

With hundreds of other former prisoners and internees, his job was to get the wheels of Hongkong turning again.

He was Mr F. P. Franklin, Managing Director of the South China Morning Post Ltd (owners and proprietors of the China Mail) whose retirement is announced today after 32 years of service with the company. He is retiring for health reasons.

His Government jobs were Press Liaison Officer and Controller of Government Printing. The other was to resuscitate the Colony's two leading newspapers, The South China Morning Post and the Hongkong Telegraph, after "an enforced holiday of three years and eight months" as the first post-war editorial put it.

Mr Franklin last night told a China Mail reporter the story of the rebirth and regeneration of a free Press in Hongkong.

SHABBY, FILTHY

"The Wyndham Street building was shabby and filthy from the neglect and carelessness of its war-time owners when he saw it again in August 1945. Boards covered bomb-shattered windows, valuable machinery had been reduced to red rust, there was no ink, no paper, no staff. bewilderment, frustration almost despair . . . but, a paper to get out in spite of it all.

And then a little miracle.

As Controller of Government Printing, Mr Franklin made a complete survey of the Colony's paper stocks.

"In godowns and in various odd places including private homes, I was successful in finding quite a lot — at least, enough to last for some months until supplies could be brought in from overseas."

A few members of the staff called in to see what was doing . . . ink was found . . . so was a linotype in working condition . . . and out came Hongkong's first post-war newspaper on August 30.

'GETTING ANXIOUS'

It was galley-sized, a single sheet nine inches by five with one announcement in bold type under a big heading, "Fleet Entering." About 20,000 copies were to tell the people of Hongkong that a "very strong fleet" which included two aircraft carriers and the battleship, Anson, would enter harbour at noon.

"We had to publish that paper," said Mr Franklin, "the people were getting anxious about the fleet's arrival. But of course the ships couldn't enter because of mines in the harbour.

That first paper was free and was distributed all around town, but that night it had acquired a souvenir value and was selling at a dollar. The next morning its price had gone up to five dollars even though we published another bigger paper that morning!

"Then we had, to solve the problem of paying and feeding our staff. There were no restaurants in Hongkong then. We fixed the price of our first papers at ten military yen each. The yen had no real value but it still had some use on the market. By dint of our sales we were able to give the staff a pocket full of yen each night and fortunately the paper was quickly recognised as an essential service and so we got rice as well."

But it is necessary to read the "Morning Post" of those days to appreciate the miracle.

Mr F. P. Franklin

On September 1, on its third day of publication, the newspaper had two pictures in its two-page paper. There were advertisements, small but noticeable headlines and three-quarters of a column of "Bird's Eye View" to cheer its readers as it did on the front page in the black days of December, 1941. A day later there was BBC cable news and a large "stop press" column appeared and soon after, four pages instead of two . . . and so a newspaper was reborn.

This is just one of the happy memories of a lifetime crowded with a rare brand of action and adventure peculiar to the "inky way" that Mr Franklin takes with him into retirement.

Incautious Driving

Driver H. McConnell, of 8 Co. RASC, 38 General Hospital, was fined $10 by Mr L. T. Morris this morning for failing to exercise caution while approaching a cross-road at Boundary Street on March 24 at 10.30 a.m. Defendant was driving a military vehicle.

MOVES TO CORRECT BUSINESS DECLINE

"More Drastic Steps" Possible Says HK Wharf Co. Chairman

The Chairman of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company Ltd, Mr R. Gordon, said today the Company had taken "steps to correct" the decline in business which last year caused a loss of $132,748.72.

In a statement circulated to shareholders at today's annual meeting at the office of Jardine Matheson & Co. Ltd, Mr Gordon revealed that the company's staff had been reduced by 353 including eight members of the senior non-Chinese administrative and supervisory staff during 1954.

Thus while the company's earnings in 14 had decreased by 43 per cent, expenditure had been cut by 36 per cent compar with 1951.

"Unfortunately cutting the cost does not entirely cure our troubles and it seems that more drastic steps may be called for," Mr Gordon said.

The Board of Directors had also decided to dispose of the company's property at Laichikok if a satisfactory offer could be obtained.

His statement said in part:

In my Statement last year I concluded by stating that I could see little prospect of improvement within the near future and events unfortunately have shown that I was right. You will see from the Accounts that for 1954 the result was a loss of $132,748.72. This is a matter of considerable worry to your Board and we must face the fact that business is bad.

Naturally the Board and the Management have been active in trying to meet the situation and, steps have been taken to correct it. Our problem is to meet a decline in business by reducing our costs of operation and trying to increase our share of such business as is offering.

The disruption of trade with China has had a serious effect on our operations. On the other hand it is fortunate that local industries have continued to expand and throughout the past year we have been endeavouring to serve these local manufacturers and I am pleased to say that we have obtained a considerable proportion of the contracts available for the handling and storage of both raw materials and finished products.

Our relations with these clients have been excellent and it is our policy to try and expand this business by offering to them every assistance in the efficient handling of their goods. The Company's trained staff are available at any time to discuss transportation and storage problems and to offer expert advice.

A 'SHADOW'

Despite the expansion of this line there is not sufficient business to support the operating costs of an undertaking the size of ours which has been built up and maintained to cater, not only for local business, but primarily for the large entrepot trade which is a shadow of its former self.

It has been our policy over the last few years to retain our trained personnel to be ready at short notice to provide port operating facilities adequate to meet all demands which might follow a revival of trade. In the Spring of last year, however, the Board decided that in view of current conditions this policy would have to be severely modified and accordingly though with extreme reluctance we dispensed with the services of a large number of employees.

The reduction in staff on December 31 last, compared with December, 1953, was 353, this figure including eight members of the senior non-Chinese administrative and supervisory staff. Due to the conditions of the termination of employment the full effects of this retrenchment will not be apparent until the 1955 accounts are finalised when it is estimated there will be a further very substantial saving in Salaries and Wages Account.

In October last Mr Wong Sik-kwen, who had served as Chinese Manager since 1947, resigned and opportunity was then taken to introduce a new system whereby control of and relations with labour were improved and a closer liaison with Chinese clients established.

Comparing 1951, which was the last normal year for trade in the Colony, and the year 1954 the Earnings of the Company have decreased by 43% and our Expenditure by 36%. The latter figure gives an idea of the economies effected but unfortunately cutting the cost does not entirely cure our troubles at Kowloon and it seems that more drastic steps to cut the scope of our traditional activities may be called for.

While the Board is most reluctant to reduce the facilities which the Company has built up over the sixty-eight years of its existence, serious consideration has been given as to whether we should continue to retain all our existing properties for our wharf and godown business as some of them are, under existing circumstances, redundant to our needs.

Should there be marked increase in trade, and the resultant demand justifies it there is still space available with our main premises which could be developed to meet the needs of our clients.

Your Board has decided therefore to dispose of the property at Lai Chi Kok if satisfactory offer can be obtained. If this sale is concluded there will be economies in our overhead expenses and we shall be in a position to clear our overdraft with a consequent saving in interest charges.

Should a satisfactory offer to purchase not be received we may consider selling the land.

GENERAL [illegible]RATIONS

The number of ships handled by us during the year was 2,057 compared with 2,256 in 1953. Of these 44[illegible] berthed at our wharves the [illegible]portion being higher than [illegible]ed in 1953 when we [illegible] 424 vessels. Lighterage [illegible]s improved but rates were highly co[illegible] for such contracts.

From the [illegible]itions, wharf-work and [illegible]age, the total revenue d[illegible]howed a decline of 6[illegible]ed with 1953 but the de[illegible]n this side of the busine[illegible]mparison with 1951 is [illegible]an 48%.

While [illegible]owns were well patronised [illegible] the year the quick tu[illegible] of cargo which produces [illegible]ague was lacking and [illegible] a considerable reduction [illegible] strategic stocks of rice [illegible] source of considerable[illegible] since the war.

The d[illegible]n revenue from this side [illegible] business compared w[illegible] was 25% and compar[illegible] 1951 was 39%: these fi[illegible] given to illustrate th[illegible] effect which the embar[illegible]ade with China has ha[illegible] business of the port.

Apa[illegible]inor expenditure on re[illegible]s to launches required [illegible]nnual survey conditio[illegible]additions to our buildi[illegible] or equipment were [illegible]ng the year. Our maint[illegible]enance programme was [illegible]ut and our properties [illegible]nd condition.

L[illegible]mentioned that we sho[illegible]ly dispose of our S.L[illegible] which was thirty yea[illegible]is launch was sold dur[illegible]ear and the profit on [illegible]tion is shown in the [illegible]d Loss Account.

[illegible]COUNTS

[illegible]rt the results of the [illegible]ng were the poorest [illegible]d for many a long [illegible]. Working Expenses [illegible]uced by some $[illegible] compared with [illegible]evenue declined by [illegible],000.00 with the [illegible]he Balance of Work[illegible], at $216,750.16, is [illegible]than half that which [illegible]le in 1953. I would [illegible] the full benefits of [illegible]nchment were not [illegible]1954.

[illegible]rofit and Loss Account [illegible]llowing for Depre[illegible]erest, and other [illegible]re is a debit balance [illegible]3.72 carried to the [illegible]tion Account. Under [illegible]nstances the Board [illegible]els that it cannot re[illegible] the payment of a [illegible] and therefore the [illegible] of Unappropriated [illegible]maining to be carried [illegible] to next account.

[illegible]Fee have not been [illegible] the Members of your [illegible] was stated.

Board having unanimously decided that these should be waived in view of the present position.

Capital Expenditure was nominal during the year and we have no outstanding commitments for 1955. Apart from the effects of the possible sale of the Laichikok property on our cash position, with only working expenditure to meet during the ensuing year there should be a steady decline in the overdraft.

THE FUTURE

I would not care to attempt to forecast the future trend of business in Hongkong but the factual position shown by the first two months of 1955 indicate that we may have touched bottom and that unless unforeseen circumstances give rise to further trade recession we should see the benefit of the steps we have taken in an improvement in our net earnings during the current year.

Mr Gordon also paid tribute to the Hon. C. E. Terry who retired last year. He said Mr Terry joined the company in 1924, and was appointed Assistant Manager in 1938. In 1945 he was appointed General Manager, thus serving in this post during the arduous and difficult post-war period of reconstruction, a task which he fulfilled very ably.

"I am sure that Members will endorse the thanks which your Board has already conveyed to Mr Terry for the fine work he has done during his thirty years of service with the Company and join in wishing him a long and happy retirement," he added.

The adoption of the report and accounts was proposed by Mr W. C. Hung.

Mr J. H. Hendriks Jansen, F. F. Booth, and L. Kadoorie were re-elected Directors, proposed by Mr J. Moodie, and seconded by Mrs M. G. Trail. Mr H. D. Benham, and A. H. Penn were re-elected Directors, proposed by Mr W. Hyde and seconded by Mr C. Ingledew.

Messrs Peat, Marwick, Mitchell & Co., were reappointed Auditors at a fee of $7,500, proposed by Mr V. K. Sung and seconded by Mr P. Morrison.

REMANDED IN CUSTODY

Pau Chup-chung, 40, photo supply dealer, of 62 Kimberley Road, first floor, and Chu Ka-cheung, 31, tailor, of 78 Ma Tau Wai Road, first floor, were remanded for five days in gaol custody by Mr Hin-shing Lo at Central this morning on charges of common assault and malicious damage to property.

Defendants were represented by Mr F. X. d'Almada. No plea was taken.

Both defendants are alleged to have assaulted Pong Wai-li at Paramount Ballroom, Windsor House on March 29. They are also alleged to have damaged crockery and furniture belonging to the Paramount Ballroom to the value of $242 on the same day.

Fined $900

Admitting charges of driving without a licence and without third party risk insurance, Suen Ki-kwai, 31, of 23, Sun-Shan Road, top floor, was fined a total of $900 or four months and six weeks, by Mr T. Creedon at Kowloon Court this morning.

Suen committed the offence in Jordan Road near the Vehicular Ferry Wharf on March 18. Defendant had a previous conviction for plying a private car for hire. His driving licence had been cancelled in February, it was stated.

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